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THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE FORTRESS OF IGNORANCE.

MORE than once, unhappily, it has fallen to our lot to animadvert upon the stolid ignorance, of the spirit and objects of the Christian revelation, displayed by our legislators when engaged in the discussion of ecclesiastical affairs. The recent debate upon the Irish church, to which the new "appropriation" motion of Mr Ward gave rise, has brought the matter afresh under notice. They whose time will allow, and whose interest in the subject will prompt them, to wade through the parliamentary reports for last week, cannot, we imagine, but be smitten with astonishment, that men to whom, in all other respects, the world gives credit for moderate intelligence, should be able, in this land of light, to maintain a position of darkness so impermeable, as that to which our legislators have committed themselves.

We are aware, indeed, that, upon other subjects as well as upon religion, ignorance finds its last asylum in our House of Commons—that antiquated prejudices, which good sense has hunted out of every other hole of society, not unfrequently find a lurking place within the precincts of the legislature—that St Stephen's is the very warren of false principles, in which, long after a price has been set upon their heads by common intelligence, they may be seen frisking about in happy unconsciousness of danger, and with perfect impunity. But even this has its limits. Upon most merely political topics the tone of the House of Commons undergoes, from period to period, a slow but certain change. Its general maxims feel the effects of a silent revolution—and the refracted rays of truth find their way at last into seemingly inaccessible corners. But upon ecclesiastical matters, no such advance is discernible. As Robert Hall said of an eminent living divine, that his eloquence resembled the turning of a door upon its hinges, displaying motion, but no progress—so may it be remarked of the senatorial mind, in respect of church establishments, that it exhibits many changes but no improvement. The propositions submitted to the House, however variously coloured, are substantially woven of the same stuff. They may seem to get somewhat further away from persecution, but they do not in the same proportion approximate to freedom. They may depose one form of error after another, but never with a view to enthroned truth. Tory, whig, and radical, may compete with about equal chances of success, for the palm of ignorance. Sir James Graham, upon the questions now alluded to, evinces knowledge as extensive, and propounds principles as correct, as does Lord John Russell—and neither handles religious matters with blindness more pitiable, than does Mr Ward, the member for Sheffield.

Now we cannot but think that some party besides themselves are blameable for this prevalence of darkness in the House of Commons. Surely it behoves dissenters, who profess to be better informed, and who have taken under their special guardianship the principles of religious liberty, to make some earnest attempt at dispersing the thick mists in which the truth is now enwrapped. It is not sufficient for them to deplore, as well they may, the numerous shipwrecks of statesmanship which state-church notions almost annually occasion. They are bound, if not for their own sakes, then for the sake of their kind, to construct, at whatever cost, an efficient lighthouse upon the heights they occupy—to fling far abroad upon that dangerous sea, in which heedless senators are apt to sail without consulting the compass, a blaze of information which cannot be overlooked. They can hardly hold themselves absolved from responsibility in this matter until they have done something more than hitherto they have attempted, to attract the attention of public men to sounder views, and to force under notice the information of which they are now destitute. It may be difficult to reach the minds of our legislators on this subject. Every effort to shake their consciences may present itself to the eye of speculation as hopeless. The fortress of ignorance may be set down by timidity as impregnable; and, unquestionably, it will not surrender at the first summons, nor until after a close, severe, and protracted siege.

But the formidable character of the attempt cannot be held by dissenters to release them from the duty of making it forthwith. Were there amongst them any sincere zeal for their principles, even al-

though that zeal had not yet left the cradle, would it not prove an infant Hercules to strangle the twin serpents of prejudice and assumption? Why, even members of parliament may be made to quail before the terrors of truth. The eloquence of consistent deeds, which, like the lightning, flashes repeated exposures of common guilt, would be found to awe these men now, as it has done, in other instances, heretofore. They laughed and joked last year, and the daily press mimicked their pleasantry over non-intrusionism in Scotland. Upwards of four hundred and fifty ministers left the kirk in a body, in testimony of their attachment to this principle. Where is their laughter now? Where their gibes and taunts? One act of moral heroism has rebuked them into gravity—and had the principle at issue been one of larger breadth, that act would have made the obstinacy even of parliament grow pale and stagger with giddiness.

It ought, surely, to be borne in mind by our leading nonconformists that the unopposed development in the House of Commons of views and principles at variance with the whole genius of Christianity, necessarily operates more or less upon public opinion, and tends to bring into general discredit the divine authority of revealed truth. The disguised infidelity which trickles from high places, finds its way from class to class beneath, until society throughout is tainted with a latitudinarianism scarcely to be distinguished from positive unbelief. That contemptuous dismissal of the voluntary principle, by men like Mr Ward, as unworthy of a moment's notice—that incessant iteration of the axiom, that it is the duty of the government to provide the means of religious instruction for the people—that carelessness evinced as to the character of the faith established, and, of late, that confident assertion that with truth, as such, the ruling powers have nothing whatever to do, but are bound to support the religion of the majority—that everlasting discussion of spiritual subjects in connexion with mere temporalities, as though Christianity were nothing more than a question of money; can these things be, without going far to undermine whatever soundness of belief there yet remains to the country? The conduct of the legislature, tacitly connived at by dissenters, is rapidly preparing the way for the quiet return of Romanism, or the universal spread of infidelity. From the battlements of society, errors the most pernicious are preached almost daily, and upon the wings of the daily press, the seeds of poison are borne into the heart of well nigh every family in the kingdom.

How, then, is the plague to be stayed? The negative answer to this question is close at hand—not by inaction—nor by individual and isolated effort. Truth must be gathered up into one bright and burning focus ere its beams will penetrate the prevailing Egyptian darkness. The work of enlightenment, to be begun aright, must be begun in concert, and under circumstances of more than ordinary solemnity. Nonconformists must boldly move forward as a body, to take permanent possession of the ground of nonconforming principles. In conference, duly summoned from every corner of the empire, they must assert the impiety of legislative interference with affairs of religion, and denounce the meddling, in every shape, of statesmen with the inalienable rights of conscience. With bold, unfaltering, and united voice, they must claim the spiritual throne for Him who alone is competent to fill it—and must urge respectful remonstrance, even in the highest quarters, to the effect that any assumption of headship over His church, sanctioned though it be by worldly authorities the most numerous and weighty, and by precedents running down in unbroken succession, from age to age, is usurpation of divine prerogative, the guilt of which, ignorance may extenuate, but nothing can effectually justify. The times call for the boldness of a Knox, whose uncompromising voice was heard in courts, as well as in churches, and who dared to speak the truth in the hearing of a queen, as unfalteringly as he announced it before applauding multitudes.

Whether a convention such as that we have recommended will be ultimately called together remains to be seen. Without imputing to metropolitan nonconformists any unworthy motives, we take leave to suggest, that London, on many accounts would be the worst possible locality for the proposed gathering. Birmingham, if only on account of its central position, seems to us to be a far more suitable spot—and sure we are, that if

Birmingham would step forward and take upon itself the responsibility of summoning a conference, it would inspire dissenters with fresh courage, and would deserve and have the warmest thanks of the whole body of right-minded nonconformists.

PROPOSED REPEAL OF THE STATUTE OF MORTMAIN.

THE speech of Lord John Manners, on Tuesday se'nnight, terminating with a proposal to repeal the statute of Mortmain, may be taken as significant of the ecclesiastical tendency of the present times. The noble lord, in calm tones, and with considerable ability, advocated the untying, by the legislature, of all restrictions which now limit the bequest of real property for pious and charitable uses. In the course of his observations, he boldly proclaimed his desire for the re-establishment, in this country, of monastic institutions, and stated his confident conviction, that no other means would be found adequate to perform the work of Christianising the masses.

Upon the subject matter of Lord Manners' proposition we shall make but a single remark. Property, however acquired, must, of necessity, be held in possession, in subordination to the welfare of society. No individual has right to tie down all future generations to such an expenditure of sums bequeathed by him, as experience has proved to be detrimental to the interests of the public. Reserving to the people this general right of supervision, we are inclined to think that the less such matters are interfered with by legislative enactments, the better; and, for our own part, we are not alarmed at the prospect of abolishing for ever the statute of Mortmain.

But we cannot view with unconcern the motives which prompt a now powerful ecclesiastical party to seek it. A deliberate return to monasticism is what few men, interested in social progress, can contemplate without dismay. If, at present, the mention of such a project stirs up the pious horror of a cabinet minister, and that minister, Sir James Graham, it would yet betray a profound ignorance of the steady and persevering workings of prelatism, to suppose that, on that account, the danger is very remote. All things concur in indicating the second triumph and ascendancy of spiritual despotism—and the events of every week bid those who hold the truth to step forward and avow it, at any sacrifice.

ROTERHAM THE CHURCH RATE.—The polling on account of this church rate came off on the 2d inst, and at the close the numbers were—

| | |
|------------------------|-----|
| For the rate | 389 |
| Against the rate | 118 |

Majority for the rate..... 271

CHURCH RATES.—WRAWBY CUM BRIGG.—On Friday last a public vestry meeting was called to be held in the parish church of Wrawby, for the purpose of levying a church rate. The vicar *ex officio* was in the chair. A rate of 3d. in the pound upon the parish of Wrawby and the township of Brigg was proposed and seconded by the churchwardens; and, after a few explanatory observations from the chair, an amendment was proposed and seconded by a party of rate-payers from Brigg in attendance on the occasion, to the following effect:—"That the consideration of the question at issue be adjourned for twelve months." The chairman, however, objected to put the amendment, and a show of hands was called for upon the original proposition, which was negatived by at least five to one, by the opponents to the rate. A poll was immediately demanded by the churchwardens, to be held at Wrawby on Tuesday, the 1st of August, and at Brigg on the following day, from ten in the morning till four in the evening of each day, and the meeting was concluded. An anti-church-rate committee was formed at Brigg on the following day, which place was canvassed by the committee and they found a majority of rate-payers in their favour, exceeding, it is presumed, that above stated; and the canvass was intended to be resumed at Wrawby on Monday. A note from the vicar, however, signed by the churchwardens, bearing the date of Saturday, the 29th ult., was not received until the following Monday, signifying "that it was not their intention to proceed any further in the matter."—*Stamford Mercury.*

"WHATSOEVER YE WOULD THAT MEN SHOULD DO UNTO YOU, DO YE EVEN SO UNTO THEM."—This sublime principle has not been illustrated by the ecclesiastical authorities of Preston this week in their seizure of the property of several respectable individuals for Easter dues, which are legally termed "oblations and offerings;" three cheeses value

£1 14s. the property of Mr Joseph Livesey, have been taken for a demand of 1s. 3d. A barometer and mahogany table from Mr Toulmin, for a demand of 6d., &c., &c. Is this for the necessary "food and raiment of the vicar"—with such Paul was "content;" did the apostles thus? Did the "Good Shepherd" so? He gave "his life for the sheep." When will the established clergy seek to "win souls?" When they are not an established clergy, but follow the great "Bishop of souls" who said, "My kingdom is not of this world."—*Blackburn Mercury.*

MR BAINES OF LEEDS.—At a monthly meeting of the Committee of Management of the Manchester Sunday School Union, held last month, it was unanimously resolved:—

"That the best thanks of the Manchester Sunday School Union be presented to Edward Baines, jun., Esq., of Leeds, for the active and talented exertions which he so timely and successfully put forth in aid of the opposition recently made to the passing into a law of the Factory Children's Education bill; also for the great services he has rendered the cause of religious liberty by collecting the important statistical information lately published in his tables and letters, whereby he has greatly contributed to rescue dissenting Sabbath school institutions from many obnoxious and highly injurious imputations."

"Signed on behalf of the committee,
"JOHN GRIFFITHS, Chairman.
"To Edward Baines, jun., Esq., Leeds."

THE WHIG PILOT BALLOON.—We feel it due to our own convictions to remind our readers of the following fact—that many of the whig statesmen at present in the shades of opposition, have declared their readiness to institute a new ecclesiastical establishment in Ireland. This declaration is the only point of importance which distinguishes them from themselves in 1841. They have made no advance during the last two years either in the direction of commercial freedom or legislative reform—they have not budged an inch from their fixed duties or their Reform bill finalities. But they are willing to pension the catholic clergy. Earl Fortescue, their late Irish Lord-lieutenant, put forward this opinion in the Lords on Monday evening; and surely our readers have not forgotten that it was put forth rather strongly by Lord John Russell, Lord Palmerston, Mr Macaulay, and others on the late debate upon Irish grievances. The question, therefore, is, are the liberals ready to welcome the whigs to return to power upon this ground? Are those who battled so strongly against the Education bill ready to receive from the whigs a new ecclesiastical establishment? We would fain hope that the liberals will answer No; but we do think that those journalists who shouted at the top of their voice against the Factories bill, might have a gentle, courteous word against this base proposal, and not leave their enemies to infer that they are ready and willing to cast all that is holy to the dogs, provided that by such a sacrifice they can further the ends of party.—*Bradford Observer.*

PUSEYISM.—At a meeting held on Thursday, of the parishioners of All Hallows Barking, in the city, the senior churchwarden in the chair, a series of resolutions were adopted, expressive of their regret at the alterations recently made in the forms of divine worship in the parish church, which they were convinced had alarmed the conscientious feelings of many of the inhabitants, and which, if persevered in, would have the effect of diminishing the attendance of public worship.

CHURCH DOINGS AT BICESTER.—A correspondent of the *Patriot* gives the following disgraceful narrative:—

"The following facts will show what kind of reception the Rev. Mr West, of Wallingford, in company with the Rev. Thomas Elford, of Oxford, met with in our market place on Monday evening, the 31st of July. Mr West began his address by saying, 'We have seen one of the magistrates, and we are to have protection.' 'Very well,' said the rioters, throwing a number of eggs in his face, 'take that, old chap.' Finding that he was in danger, and that he could not get a hearing, Mr West took shelter, first in a room at the King's Arms, the head inn; while there, a person came to him and said, 'If you go into the yard behind, you will be safe.' The preacher went, but the moment he reached the yard, he was seized by the collar, and dragged to the street, where the rioters were waiting to receive him. He got from them, and ran into Mr Davis's surgery (Mr Davis is a magistrate), where he was seized again and turned into the street to the rioters, and a bucket full of filthy water was thrown upon him over the wall, and out of the magistrate's yard!! Mr Davis was not in the house at the time. One of the rioters got on to Mr West's back, plastered his face with slimy clay, and even filled his ears with sand and mud!! One young man said, 'This is as good as bull-baiting.' Is it not high time that an end were put to these ~~bad~~-dishonouring and disgusting scenes?"

SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE.—The Factories bill has not been without its good effects in London, and we are glad to find that, whatever may be the time-serving policy of some who ought to take the lead in such a movement, there are a large number of earnest dissenters who are anxious and determined to make a move against church establishments. The young men's committee, which so zealously and efficiently opposed the Factories bill, pledged themselves at the termination of that conflict, to continue the struggle in some form or another against the great source of all religious intolerance—the state church. It has accordingly been determined to form a Metropolitan Anti-state-church association, with a view to agitate the question throughout the metropolis by means of lectures and public meetings, the distribution of tracts, &c., and by co-operating with the friends of the cause throughout the country in any combined attack on ecclesiastical despotism. We are unable to explain more

fully the plan of operations, as it has not yet been fully matured, but we hope to give the whole in a future number. The great body of metropolitan dissenters are, if we may judge from the ardent feeling displayed at the numerous meetings to oppose the Factories bill, quite prepared for some steps in advance, and there is little doubt that the above association, if efficiently conducted, will be able to bring out this feeling, and turn it into a proper and useful channel.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S COURT, OXFORD.—Macmullen v. the Regius Professor of Divinity.—Tuesday week, after a protracted delay, judgment was finally given by the learned assessor, Dr Kenyon, in favour of the admissibility of the plaintiff's libel in its amended form. The two principal exceptions to the libel, taken by Dr Twiss, counsel for Dr Hampden—viz., that the libel did not allege that the damages affirmed to be sustained by the plaintiff were consequential, or that the defendant had acted from malice, being overruled by the assessor. The Court reserved the question of costs till a further stage of the proceedings, considering that the question before the Court was in effect the trial of a right, although in form an action for damages. Should no appeal be entered by the defendant's proctor within fifteen days, it is supposed that the proof of the plaintiff's allegations will be proceeded with early in the ensuing university term.

CHURCH ESTABLISHMENTS.—A conference of ministers, of the unitarian connexion, at a meeting recently held at Taunton, Somersetshire, passed a series of resolutions on the subject of church establishments, of which the following are the principal parts:—

"That, looking to the history of religious establishments in connexion with the state, there is no fact more prominent than the evils they have created and prolonged in society—their inevitable operation being, either in fact or in tendency, to limit the mind to that mixture of truth and error which happened to predominate at the period of their introduction; in ages of ignorance, producing a blind and unreasoning conformity; and, in periods of more advanced, though imperfect, development of human rights, operating at once the moral wrong of supplying dishonest temptations to the profession of religious opinion—and that most grievous of sores in the bosom of society, the irritation inseparable from the exercise of unjust assumption on the one hand, and the wide-felt humiliation and disparagement endured upon the other.

"That, upon all these grounds—and whether we respect the free prosecution, and unadulterated love, of the truth as revealed in the gospel of Jesus Christ, or contemplate the question in its relation to the social and civil rights of members of one common nation, all of whom, by inalienable right, have a claim to the equal regard of the governing power—we, of this conference of ministers of the gospel, do firmly and solemnly protest against the state endowment, patronage, and preference of any one sect or denomination of religious believers above another; and do, as in the fear and sight of a just and holy God, and by the allegiance we owe to our great head and master, Jesus Christ, proclaim our determination to avail ourselves, from this day forward, of every lawful, temperate, and appropriate means which Providence may afford us, of exposing the injustice, condemning the impiety, and aiding in the removal of the now subsisting ecclesiastical establishments in this realm—as themselves the source of the gravest evils, and adding intensity to the evils of manifold form by which society is afflicted, and the religion of the Redeemer dishonoured and obstructed."

NOVEL AMUSEMENTS OF THE CLERGY AND GENTRY OF ASHFORD AND ITS VICINITY.—It being resolved that on Wednesday the 26th ult., the children of the national schools and some from the neighbouring parishes should have their public treat; they assembled in the Town hall, where they were regaled with refreshments, including a mug of beer for each.

They were then conducted to Pill Hill field, amidst the playing of music and a banner bearing this inscription—"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Six clergymen of the established church honoured the company with their presence. After exhibiting several species of rustic sports, such as jumping in sacks, sparring, &c., a gentleman residing on the spot, and probably an admirer of the "Book of Sports," kindly lent his pig for the use of the young Nimrods. Having carefully soaped the animal's tail, and administered an aperient draught, the pig was unkennelled. Six town boys, and six from the country, were chosen, and used their best endeavours to catch the pig. But I need not detail the particulars, nor will I attempt to depict the state of the poor children—or speculate on the quantity of soap to which their parents were entitled, after this display of superior talent, sufficient to induce six clergymen to bring their families to witness, and by their own presence to sanction. These are the men who in this enlightened day are telling us they are the successors of the apostles. These are the men to whose maintenance we are compelled to contribute. These are the men who claim for their church the title of supreme instructor of the people. Tell it not in Gath—publish it not in the streets of Ashford, that with the words of Solomon on their banner, their example should in this disgusting manner proclaim the truth, "The leaders of the people do teach them to err."—*From a Correspondent.*

CLERICAL EFFORT TO CRUSH DISSENT DEFEATED.—At Boroughbridge, in the county of Somerset, near the retreat of King Alfred, during the prevalence of the Danish power in the land, an effort was made, a few years since, to establish a dissenting interest. It was successful, owing to the divine blessing resting on the labours of the Rev. T. Baker, agent of the Baptist Home Missionary society, who gathered a congregation, established a Sunday school, and formed a Christian church, under the happiest auspices. It was at this juncture, that the pity of the

church folks was awakened, and their zeal excited, to provide for the spiritual destitution of the inhabitants, who had hitherto had no one to care for them, and who were now rapidly falling into the gulf of dissent. An episcopal edifice was soon erected; an evangelical clergyman was appointed; and Sunday and day schools were opened. The good man at first professed to be very catholic in his feelings towards all who loved Christ; but having, in some degree, gained his end, the natural intolerance of the system, with which he is connected, began to show itself.

His favours, in the shape of clothing, &c., were confined to the church-goers; and soon the benefits of day school instruction were made dependent on attendance at the church Sunday school. Things at the chapel were beginning to wear a sombre appearance; and serious apprehensions were felt about the result. An incident, however, of an interesting character led to the adoption of measures which have completely turned the tide, and defeated the abettors of churchism and intolerance. A fine lad, of about eleven years of age, in spite of the arbitrary demands of the clergyman, and the wishes of his friend, felt determined to return to the chapel Sunday school, and yet his love of learning led him to the church day school, where, it should be mentioned, he paid full price for his instruction. One Sunday he was carefully guarded as far as the door of the church school, but he contrived there to make his escape, and get by the side of his chosen teacher at chapel. Exasperated at the conduct of the lad, the clergyman, on the Monday, unceremoniously turned him, bag and baggage, out of the school. This was a crisis. Accordingly, Mr Baker, having consulted a few friends in the neighbourhood, and obtained promises of support, at once engaged a teacher, and opened a day school in the vestry of his chapel. The plan succeeded, and the influence of the clergyman began to wane. The rod, which he had held *ad terrorem* over the heads of the people, was broken. It was no longer in his power to withhold secular instruction from the children of the place, unless their parents would consent to have them crammed with church-of-Englandism. A few weeks ago a still more decisive crisis occurred. A member of the dissenting church was gored to death by a bull; and Mr Baker, anxious to turn the melancholy event to some good account, announced his intention to deliver a discourse on the occasion. The church schoolmaster ventured to gratify his desire hear it. For this he was summoned into the presence of his clerical master, who charged him with the enormous guilt of schism, and threatened him with instant deprivation, if he repeated the sin of chapel-going. The schoolmaster, who, breathing the same air that Alfred once breathed, and being, moreover, it is hoped, a good man, seems to have some feelings about him proper to a man and a Christian, nobly stood his ground: and not liking what he called "priestly domination," refused, when sent for, to make his appearance at the school, and has been summarily dismissed. The immediate influence of these events has been very gratifying to every lover of liberty and truth. Tyranny is defeated. The dissenting chapel is well attended, and the schools, both day and Sunday, are in a very flourishing state. The prospects of dissent, with which the interests of truth are identified, have never been so cheering in the place. A little courage and energy on the part of dissenters will, in the end, elsewhere, as well as at Boroughbridge, bring down the meditated mischief of high and exclusive churchism upon its own pate. The above statement has been made public in hope of raising the spirits of any who are depressed by the crushing efforts of Puseyite bigots.

SCOTCH CHURCH.

SINGULAR SCENE.—One of the strangest scenes which has occurred during the whole commotions of the kirk, took place in the parish church here on Sunday last. The new presentee to the parish, the Rev. John Wilson, of Walston, is very unpopular in the parish, principally, it would appear, from his unattractive style of preaching, and his slavish use of "the paper"—a practice in peculiarly bad odour in the locality. On Sunday last, Mr Wilson preached to the congregation, by appointment of the presbytery, preparatory to the moderation of the call. In the forenoon Mr Wilson preached to a pretty large audience, the usual "residuary" congregation being swelled by a number belonging both to the united secession and the "Free church," attracted by curiosity. The reverend gentleman's forenoon ministrations were far from giving satisfaction, and between the two services a plot seems consequently to have been concocted, which was executed with great effect in the afternoon. The first symptom of discontent presented itself to Mr Wilson in the shape of a visit between sermons from the precentor, who announced that he could not conscientiously officiate in the afternoon, as he "did not like this business," and thought that no good could come out of it to any one concerned. Undismayed by this desertion, Mr Wilson again proceeded to the pulpit, in the hope that a volunteer precentor would be found among the audience. In this, however, he was disappointed, and, on giving out the psalm, an entire stoppage ensued for a full quarter of an hour; but at the end of that time, a farmer succeeded in persuading a person belonging to the "Free church" to raise the tune. Matters then went on smoothly till Mr Wilson began his sermon, when he had no sooner resorted to "the paper," than the whole congregation, with very few exceptions, rose and left the church! The affair has naturally excited considerable talk in the district, and is curious as a proof that the "Free church" has not carried away with her all the unmanageable material.

We understand that the Earl of Aberdeen, on an application by the Rev. Mr Manson and the adherents

to the free church in Fyvie, for a site on which to build a church, has, in the most liberal manner, returned an immediate answer, expressing his willingness to grant a site on any part of his property that may be most suitable for that purpose.—*Caledonian Mercury*.

KENDAL.—The congregation seceding from the Scotch secession church of Kendal, on account of the suspension and dismission of the Rev. John Guthrie by the synod, held in April last, in Edinburgh, have met hitherto in a large room called the Odd Fellows' hall. At a meeting of the church and congregation, held on Monday evening last, it was decided that arrangements be immediately entered into for erecting a plain and commodious place of worship; and that a subscription be immediately entered into for defraying the expenses of the building. About £250 was given at the meeting. It was resolved not to commence the building until £500 had been raised. It is expected the whole cost will not exceed £700.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

- Arms (Ireland) bill, against, 2.
- Church of Ireland, for abolition of, 1.
- Coalwhippers bill, against, 1.
- Corn laws, for repeal of, 15.
- County Courts bill, for, 5.
- Factories bill, against, 1.
- Poor Relief (Ireland) act, for amendment of, 6.
- Union with Ireland, for repeal of, 1.

PUBLIC BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

BILLS PRESENTED AND READ A FIRST TIME.

- 1. Defamation and Libel bill.
- 2. Fisheries bill.
- 3. Sudbury Commission bill.
- 4. Land Revenue bill.
- 5. Colonial Jurisdiction bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

- 1. Fisheries bill.
- 2. Sudbury Commission bill.
- 3. Land Revenue bill.
- 4. Foreign Jurisdiction bill.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

- 1. Slave Trade (Austria) bill.
- 2. Slave Trade (Portugal) bill.
- 3. Slave Trade (Chile) bill.
- 4. Slave Trade (Mexico) bill.
- 5. Coalwhippers bill.
- 6. Highway Rates bill.
- 7. Limitation of Actions (Ireland) bill.
- 8. Poor Relief (Ireland) bill.
- 9. Mandamus Appeals bill.
- 10. Bishops' Relief (Ireland) bill.
- 11. Theatres Regulation bill.
- 12. Supply.—£1,281,211, to make good to certain holders of opium, surrendered in China in March, 1839, the amount of compensation due to them under the fourth article of the treaty of peace with China; £821,020, expenses of the expedition to China; £25,300, expenses of the service in Canada; £5000, works carrying upon the Caledonian canal in the year 1843; £4500, harbour of Port Patrick; £5000, for commission to inquire into best mode of preserving the public health; £7000, commission to inquire into the operation of the poor laws (Scotland); £1500, Monuments, Lord Exmouth, Sir Sidney Smith, and Lord De Saumarez; £4903 16s. 5d., interest to holders of forged exchequer bills; £3500, expenses of destitute emigrants, Australia; £500,000, services of former years; £155,695, for disembodied militia.
- 13. Customs bill.
- 14. Attorneys and Solicitors bill.
- 15. Episcopal Functions bill.

BILLS READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

- 1. Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction bill.
- 2. Excise bill.
- 3. Stamps bill.
- 4. Slave Trade (Austria) bill.
- 5. Slave Trade (Portugal) bill.
- 6. Slave Trade (Chile) bill.
- 7. Slave Trade (Mexico) bill.
- 8. Highway Rates bill.
- 9. Warrants of Attorney bill.
- 10. Bishops' Relief (Ireland) bill.
- 11. Limitation of Actions (Ireland) bill.
- 12. Mandamus Appeals bill.
- 13. Theatres Regulation bill.

MOTIONS.

Church property (Ireland)—Motion made and question proposed, "That an humble address be presented to her Majesty, representing to her Majesty that, in the opinion of this House, it is not by measures for the repression of local violence that the discontents of Ireland can be allayed, but by removing those grievances which have formed, for many years, the subject of recorded complaint and remonstrance between the two countries:

"That amongst the most prominent of these is the law by which the whole ecclesiastical property of Ireland is assigned to the clergy of a small section of the population; and that this House, deeply impressed with the belief that such a law is not conformable to reason, or to the practice of any Christian country, pledges itself, after providing for existing proprietary rights, and for the claims of her Majesty's protestant subjects, cordially to co-operate with her Majesty in effecting such a settlement of church property in Ireland as will remove all just ground of complaint, and give satisfaction to the Irish people."—(Mr Ward.)

Supply.—"That the order of the day for the committee of supply be now read;" amendment proposed, to leave out from the words "That the" to the end of the question, in order to add the words, "petition of inhabitants of the borough of Kingston-upon-Hull, complaining of the illegal manner in which a public meeting of the inhabitants of that town, convened for the purpose of petitioning parliament, was dispersed by the police [which was presented upon the 9th day of May last], be referred to a select committee, and that the said committee do report their opinion thereupon, with the evidence, to the House,"—(Mr Thomas Duncombe)—instead thereof. Question put, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question;" the House divided; ayes 83, noes 29.

DEBATES.

Tuesday, August 1st.

THE IRISH CHURCH.

In the postscript of our last number we were able only incidentally to refer to the debate on the preceding evening, more especially to the interesting speech of the member for Sheffield. We therefore subjoin a condensed report of that night's discussion:—

Mr WARD, in bringing forward the motion of which he had given notice, said that this was pre-eminently a practical question. It was a bar to that union

which they all desired. It was a stumbling-block in every system. It was a source of national weakness in the midst of apparent strength. It was a constant rot eating into the constitution. Temporalities acts and appropriation clauses were very well ten years ago as a beginning—as the first step towards a great national compromise of a difficult question; and if they had chosen to act in the spirit of his resolution of 1834, and adopted such a position by the bill of 1835 and 1836, and to prune down, while there was yet time, the redundancies of the Irish establishment, he believed that that compromise, accepted as it was by the majority of Irish members in that house, would have been satisfactory, if assented to. The hon. member then showed that the protestant establishment in Ireland had originated in injustice; that the original clergy, the Roman catholic, had been driven from their livings; not sacrificing their principles, as had been done in England. The liturgy of the Irish establishment had never been translated into the language of the people it professed to teach. After quoting numerous historical facts, and commenting upon them, Mr Ward said that the Irish church measures of the late ministry were only attempts to retain the bulk of what was unjustly held, by sacrificing a part. The church was at the opposition to the miserable franchises in Ireland. It was an obstacle to all reform in that country. He then referred to the political corruption by which the church had sought to supply its deficiency in moral strength. He would take one case, because he had learned it from the authority of an Irish clergyman of the established church.

Lord Robert Tottenham, the present bishop of Clogher, derived an income of ninety thousand pounds sterling per annum, and had never performed any ecclesiastical duty; he had never read the service, he had never married any one, he had never christened any one, he had never buried any one, in any part of the world, until he was made a bishop in Ireland [laughter and cheers]. But then his father, the Marquis of Ely, had six votes [cheers]. He did not state this fact for the purpose of wounding the feelings of an individual, but only to show what had been the system [hear]. Let them look to the amount of wealth possessed by these bishops. Dr Stuart, the bishop of Armagh, died after twenty-two years' enjoyment of the bishopric, and then left £300,000 behind him [hear, hear]. Dr Porter, the bishop of Clogher, who was a very poor man when he was made bishop, left £250,000 behind him in a very few years.

He then proceeded to detail the actual amount of revenues enjoyed by the Irish establishment.

Called the "Irish church"—the church was only the church of the state, and was Irish but in name. What were its present revenues, he had taken pains to ascertain:—

| | |
|--|----------|
| Gross episcopal revenue (land and tithe) | £151,127 |
| Deans and prebends (exclusive of those attached to sees) | 34,481 |
| Minor canons and vicars choral | 10,515 |

Altogether

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| Gross receipts | £196,123 |
| Deducting bishops' incomes | £162,258 |
| Deducting bishops' tithes | 91,773 |

There remained an annual income of £252,753

Then as to the population—no more recent data could be obtained than those supplied by the census of 1834:—

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Protestant episcopalians | 852,000 |
| Presbyterians | 642,000 |
| Other protestant dissenters | 21,000 |

Altogether

| | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Catholics | 1,515,000 |
| 6,427,712 | |

But the Wesleyan methodists had been included in the estimate of episcopalians, whose numbers, if they were subtracted, would be reduced to 732,000, and the number of protestant dissenters would be increased to 764,000. Now the average annual cost of episcopal education was 15s. a head; for the presbyterians (with the *regium donum*), 1s. a head. While, for the catholics there was no provision by the state at all. He had never heard, however, that the presbyterians or dissenters were less moral or religious than the episcopalians.

He would give one instance, out of many, of the manner in which the livings were at present distributed.

One of his numerous correspondents had sent him a map of Kilkenny, and there (the hon. member pointing to the map, which he held up to the House) lay this parish, extending from one end of the county to the other [hear, hear], and he would ask whether any spiritual duty could be performed in a church so situate as was that. The living was 1,806, a year, and the union comprised 11 parishes; and what was the natural consequence of the union, which had existed for the last 100 years? Why, in 1731, the protestants in three of the parishes were 69. In 1831, they were only 52. In another parish they were 34 in 1731; in 1831, they were only 32. In another parish they were, in 1731, 31; in 1831 they were only 6 [hear, hear]. So that in spite of that enormous aggregation of revenue, there had been a constant falling off of protestants. Then the Temporalities act did not come into operation when the livings were in the gift of lay patrons. But he would mention another instance of a union. It was a living of 2,339, a year, comprising six parishes, spread over an enormous extent of country. The church was in Cavan; but it would puzzle even the clergyman himself to find a protestant in one half of the parishes. There were only 328 protestants for the six different parishes [hear, hear].

He admitted that at the present day there were many bishops on the bench who were ornaments to it; but the church had still very great abuses; for instance, some of the unions, containing a number of parishes thrown together, as it should seem, for the purpose of making a rich provision for some favoured incumbent. The existence of such a church was regarded by the Irish not only as an injury, but as an insult. Being men, they must be governed, and they could not be governed thus. You could not thus govern 8,000,000 of people, living in the midst of you, and knit together by the bond of a common injustice. On the Continent, in Austria and in Prussia, the true principle was well understood; this country alone was ignorant of it. He then, at some length, detailed his proposed plan.

His principle would be, take all religions equally on the tithe, and pay them out of it. Break up the present establishment. He considered archbishops and bishops totally unsuited to such a state of society as that of Ireland. Give up that cumbrous machinery, for cumbrous it was, and nothing more. It was not necessary for the spiritual education of the people. Look only to the working clergy, and take the standard of what was necessary for the wants of the presbyterian ministers, as being equally necessary for that of the episcopalians. Follow out the Church Temporalities act, and accompany all this with every demonstration that what was done was honestly meant, and that these concessions were not to be taken from those they were given to. Give the Roman catholic bishops a legal position. Give back the churches which the Roman catholics built before the Reformation, and which the protestant families were unable to fill at present. Get rid of all those petty annoyances which were fretting in the bosom of every Roman catholic family wherever by these unions the burial-grounds of their ancestors were put in the power of the protestant clergyman, and made inaccessible to them without his leave. Make the catholic clergy the link, as Mr Pitt desired to have made them, between the Crown and the people. It was his firm belief that if the House of Commons took that course they might succeed in convincing even the hon. member for Cork (Mr Roche), and in changing that provincial feeling of nationality which appeared just now to influence the Irish people into what he might call an imperial nationality, founded upon a perfect community of interests. But as he proposed to alienate the property of the Irish church, he might also be expected to state in what way he proposed to apply the fund so alienated. With the permission of the House he would do so. According to the last returns he took the amount of that property to be £582,734. per annum. In re-applying that amount, he begged, in the first place, to say, that he would proceed on the principle of respecting all existing interests, of paying every incumbent, however long his life might be, every shilling to which he might be entitled; he would divide the amount, after regarding those interests, between the three religions in Ireland according to the numerical proportion of each. To the protestant episcopalians he proposed to give one-third, or about 78,000*l.* To the presbyterians and Wesleyans he proposed to give another eighth of the same amount, and the remainder, or about 400,000*l.* per annum, he proposed to devote to the catholics. Then he would substitute the congregational for the parochial system; he would break up the parishes, and pay according to the number of the flocks, and not the size of the parishes. If the regum donum of 75,000*l.* a year was found to be enough for the spiritual instruction of 652,000 presbyterians, surely 78,000*l.* would be enough for the working clergy of the episcopal protestants. The 400,000*l.* which he proposed to devote to the catholics should be paid into the hands of their bishops for the purpose of building chapels and schools, and repairing them, for other purposes connected with the spiritual instruction of the people, and for making Maynooth something like what such an establishment for such a people ought to be. An annual statement of the distribution of the funds he proposed should be furnished by the Irish secretary, parliament reserving to itself a right of control over the money, so that it might, if necessary, be applied to other purposes connected with national education.

Now as to the objections which might be made to his plan. It would be said, we must look to the truth of the religion we establish; but he contended that no party or majority had a right to pronounce upon such a question. If this were justifiable anywhere, it was justifiable everywhere, and Lord Ellenborough in India ought to parade the 39 articles instead of the gates of Somnauth. Then, the catholic religion was said to be dangerous. Why, it was the only form in which Christianity had flourished for many centuries; it was the elder type of our own religion. The spirit in which the House should proceed to-night would have a great effect upon the question of union, and he would fain see the two countries made one in a perfect equality, civil and religious.

Mr CAREW, in a temperate speech, seconded the motion.

Lord ELIOT said, that certainly this was no vague proposal; it was definite enough! But the question now was not what would have been, *a priori*, the fittest church establishment for Ireland: the existing establishment had been fixed as the condition of the union; and without that union, so purchased, catholic emancipation would never have been peacefully carried. Mr Ward had admitted that no man who voted for this address could stop there; and it was therefore for gentlemen to consider whether they were prepared to vote for the total destruction of the protestant church.

He (Lord Eliot) presumed that the noble lord sitting near the hon. member for Sheffield—that the noble lord the member for London, and the noble lord the member for Tiverton, would use rather different language upon this subject [cheers]. One of those noble lords was for putting the Roman catholic church in Ireland on an equality with the establishment, but neither of them went to the extent of suggesting a total alienation of the property of the latter. The noble lord the member for Tiverton would have the mortmain statutes relaxed as far as regarded the Roman catholic church, but such a proposition as that would find no countenance in this motion, but, on the contrary, would be laughed to scorn. He would say to the hon. member for Sheffield, in the words of the poet—

"Quid faciam vis?

Denique non omnes eadem mirantur amantque.

Tres mihi conviva prop̄ dissidente videntur,

Possentes vario multā diversa palato.

Quid dem? quid non dem? Renuis tu quod jubet alter;

Quod petis, id san̄ est invicem acidunque duobus."

[laughter]. Such was the position in which the hon. member for Sheffield was placed [renewed laughter and cheers]. He (Lord Eliot) certainly looked with great curiosity to the declarations which the noble lords the members for London and Tiverton would make upon the present motion, for he felt it would be impossible for them to vote for the resolution, couched even as vaguely as it was [cheers]. Would the noble lord, the member for London, or the noble lord, the member for Tiverton, vote for doing away with the hierarchy of Ireland, even if for a moment it could be supposed that the majority of the House would support them [cheers]! To suppose that such a course would be a remedy for Irish grievances was but a mockery of the Irish people.

Mr Ward had said that the English and Scotch nations would never consent to tax themselves for the maintenance of the Roman catholic clergy. Did he suppose those two nations would ever consent to the abolition of the protestant church? The language now employed was strangely at variance with the assurances given when the emancipation was carried. There was then, on the subject of the church, a distinct understanding and compact, which it would be a plain breach of faith in the government now to violate.

Wednesday, August 2nd.

THE IRISH CHURCH.

The adjourned debate on Mr Ward's motion was resumed by Mr Trelawny, who put forward some views on the subject of church establishments rather new to the house of Commons. After referring to and answering the various objections to an interference with the protestant establishment in Ireland, he proceeded—

Another objection to interference with the revenues of the Irish church was, "that any invasion of its rights would involve an invasion of the English church." In particular, it was said, "If perfect equality between the two religions be conceded, how can you refuse the Irish bishops seats in the house of Lords?" He replied, "Remove all the bishops from the house of Lords, and you get rid of the difficulty at once." Having noticed these general objections, he should endeavour to establish three propositions with regard to this subject. He should attempt to prove, first, that a church establishment was unjust towards those who, dissenting from it, were compelled to contribute out of their means to the propagation of principles they disallowed. This proposition ought to require little more than to be stated to be at once admitted. Religious, like civil, liberty was the

£1 14s. the property of Mr Joseph Livesey, have been taken for a demand of 1s. 3d. A barometer and mahogany table from Mr Toulmin, for a demand of 6d., &c., &c. Is this for the necessary "food and raiment of the vicar"—with such Paul was "content;" did the apostles thus? Did the "Good Shepherd" so? He gave "his life for the sheep." When will the established clergy seek to "win souls?" When they are not an established clergy, but follow the great "Bishop of souls" who said, "My kingdom is not of this world."—*Blackburn Mercury*.

MR BAINES OF LEEDS.—At a monthly meeting of the Committee of Management of the Manchester Sunday School Union, held last month, it was unanimously resolved:—

"That the best thanks of the Manchester Sunday School Union be presented to Edward Baines, jun., Esq., of Leeds, for the active and talented exertions which he so timely and successfully put forth in aid of the opposition recently made to the passing into a law of the Factory Children's Education bill; also for the great services he has rendered the cause of religious liberty by collecting the important statistical information lately published in his tables and letters, whereby he has greatly contributed to rescue dissenting Sabbath school institutions from many obnoxious and highly injurious imputations."

"Signed on behalf of the committee,
JOHN GRIFFITHS, Chairman.
"To Edward Baines, jun., Esq., Leeds."

THE WHIG PILOT BALLOON.—We feel it due to our own convictions to remind our readers of the following fact—that many of the whig statesmen at present in the shades of opposition, have declared their readiness to institute a new ecclesiastical establishment in Ireland. This declaration is the only point of importance which distinguishes them from themselves in 1841. They have made no advance during the last two years either in the direction of commercial freedom or legislative reform—they have not budged an inch from their fixed duties or their Reform bill finalities. But they are willing to pension the catholic clergy. Earl Fortescue, their late Irish Lord-lieutenant, put forward this opinion in the Lords on Monday evening; and surely our readers have not forgotten that it was put forth rather strongly by Lord John Russell, Lord Palmerston, Mr Macaulay, and others on the late debate upon Irish grievances. The question, therefore, is, are the liberals ready to welcome the whigs to return to power upon this ground? Are those who battled so strongly against the Education bill ready to receive from the whigs a new ecclesiastical establishment? We would fain hope that the liberals will answer No; but we do think that those journalists who shouted at the top of their voice against the Factories bill, might have a gentle, courteous word against this base proposal, and not leave their enemies to infer that they are ready and willing to cast all that is holy to the dogs, provided that by such a sacrifice they can further the ends of party.—*Bradford Observer*.

PUSEYISM.—At a meeting held on Thursday, of the parishioners of All Hallows Barking, in the city, the senior churchwarden in the chair, a series of resolutions were adopted, expressive of their regret at the alterations recently made in the forms of divine worship in the parish church, which they were convinced had alarmed the conscientious feelings of many of the inhabitants, and which, if persevered in, would have the effect of diminishing the attendance of public worship.

CHURCH DOINGS AT BICESTER.—A correspondent of the *Patriot* gives the following disgraceful narrative:—

"The following facts will show what kind of reception the Rev. Mr West, of Wallingford, in company with the Rev. Thomas Elford, of Oxford, met with in our market place on Monday evening, the 31st of July. Mr West began his address by saying, 'We have seen one of the magistrates, and we are to have protection.' 'Very well,' said the rioters, throwing a number of eggs in his face, 'take that, old chap.' Finding that he was in danger, and that he could not get a hearing, Mr West took shelter, first in a room at the King's Arms, the head inn; while there, a person came to him and said, 'If you go into the yard behind, you will be safe.' The preacher went, but the moment he reached the yard, he was seized by the collar, and dragged to the street, where the rioters were waiting to receive him. He got from them, and ran into Mr Davis's surgery (Mr Davis is a magistrate), where he was seized again and turned into the street to the rioters, and a bucket full of filthy water was thrown upon him over the wall, and out of the magistrate's yard!! Mr Davis was not in the house at the time. One of the rioters got on to Mr West's back, plastered his face with slimy clay, and even filled his ears with sand and mud!! One young man said, 'This is as good as bull-baiting!' Is it not high time that an end were put to these God-dishonouring and disgusting scenes?"

SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE.—The Factories bill has not been without its good effects in London, and we are glad to find that, whatever may be the time-serving policy of some who ought to take the lead in such a movement, there are a large number of earnest dissenters who are anxious and determined to make a move against church establishments. The young men's committee, which so zealously and efficiently opposed the Factories bill, pledged themselves at the termination of that conflict, to continue the struggle in some form or another against the great source of all religious intolerance—the state church. It has accordingly been determined to form a Metropolitan Anti-state-church association, with a view to agitate the question throughout the metropolis by means of lectures and public meetings, the distribution of tracts, &c., and by co-operating with the friends of the cause throughout the country in any combined attack on ecclesiastical despotism. We are unable to explain more

fully the plan of operations, as it has not yet been fully matured, but we hope to give the whole in a future number. The great body of metropolitan dissenters are, if we may judge from the ardent feeling displayed at the numerous meetings to oppose the Factories bill, quite prepared for some steps in advance, and there is little doubt that the above association, if efficiently conducted, will be able to bring out this feeling, and turn it into a proper and useful channel.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S COURT, OXFORD.—Macmullen v. the Regius Professor of Divinity.—Tuesday week, after a protracted delay, judgment was finally given by the learned assessor, Dr Kenyon, in favour of the admissibility of the plaintiff's libel in its amended form. The two principal exceptions to the libel, taken by Dr Twiss, counsel for Dr Hampden—viz., that the libel did not allege that the damages affirmed to be sustained by the plaintiff were consequential, or that the defendant had acted from malice, being overruled by the assessor. The Court reserved the question of costs till a further stage of the proceedings, considering that the question before the Court was in effect the trial of a right, although in form an action for damages. Should no appeal be entered by the defendant's proctor within fifteen days, it is supposed that the proof of the plaintiff's allegations will be proceeded with early in the ensuing university term.

CHURCH ESTABLISHMENTS.—A conference of ministers, of the unitarian connexion, at a meeting recently held at Taunton, Somersetshire, passed a series of resolutions on the subject of church establishments, of which the following are the principal parts:—

"That, looking to the history of religious establishments in connexion with the state, there is no fact more prominent than the evils they have created and prolonged in society—their inevitable operation being, either in fact or in tendency, to limit the mind to that mixture of truth and error which happened to predominate at the period of their introduction; in ages of ignorance, producing a blind and unreasoning conformity; and, in periods of more advanced, though imperfect, development of human rights, operating at once the moral wrong of supplying dishonest temptations to the profession of religious opinion—and that most grievous of sores in the bosom of society, the irritation inseparable from the exercise of unjust assumption on the one hand, and the wide-felt humiliation and disparagement endured upon the other.

"That, upon all these grounds—and whether we respect the free prosecution, and unadulterated love, of the truth as revealed in the gospel of Jesus Christ, or contemplate the question in its relation to the social and civil rights of members of one common nation, all of whom, by inalienable right, have a claim to the equal regard of the governing power—we, of this conference of ministers of the gospel, do firmly and solemnly protest against the state endowment, patronage, and preference of any one sect or denomination of religious believers above another; and do, as in the fear and sight of a just and holy God, and by the allegiance we owe to our great head and master, Jesus Christ, proclaim our determination to avail ourselves, from this day forward, of every lawful, temperate, and appropriate means which Providence may afford us, of exposing the injustice, condemning the impiety, and aiding in the removal of the now subsisting ecclesiastical establishments in this realm—as themselves the source of the gravest evils, and adding intensity to the evils of manifold form by which society is afflicted, and the religion of the Redeemer dishonoured and obstructed."

NOVEL AMUSEMENTS OF THE CLERGY AND GENTRY OF ASHFORD AND ITS VICINITY.—It being resolved that on Wednesday the 26th ult., the children of the national schools and some from the neighbouring parishes should have their public treat; they assembled in the Town hall, where they were regaled with refreshments, including a mug of beer for each. They were then conducted to Pill Hill field, amidst the playing of music and a banner bearing this inscription—"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Six clergymen of the established church honoured the company with their presence. After exhibiting several species of rustic sports, such as jumping in sacks, sparring, &c., a gentleman residing on the spot, and probably an admirer of the "Book of Sports," kindly lent his pig for the use of the young Nimrods. Having carefully soaped the animal's tail, and administered an aperient draught, the pig was unkenneled. Six town boys, and six from the country, were chosen, and used their best endeavours to catch the pig. But I need not detail the particulars, nor will I attempt to depict the state of the poor children—or speculate on the quantity of soap to which their parents were entitled, after this display of superior talent, sufficient to induce six clergymen to bring their families to witness, and by their own presence to sanction. These are the men who in this enlightened day are telling us they are the successors of the apostles. These are the men to whose maintenance we are compelled to contribute. These are the men who claim for their church the title of supreme instructress of the people. Tell it not in Gath—publish it not in the streets of Ashford, that with the words of Solomon on their banner, their example should in this disgusting manner proclaim the truth, "The leaders of the people do teach them to err."—*From a Correspondent*.

CLERICAL EFFORT TO CRUSH DISSENT DEFEATED.—At Boroughbridge, in the county of Somerset, near the retreat of King Alfred, during the prevalence of the Danish power in the land, an effort was made, a few years since, to establish a dissenting interest. It was successful, owing to the divine blessing resting on the labours of the Rev. T. Baker, agent of the Baptist Home Missionary Society, who gathered a congregation, established a Sunday school, and formed a Christian church, under the happiest auspices. It was at this juncture, that the pity of the

church folks was awakened, and their zeal excited, to provide for the spiritual destitution of the inhabitants, who had hitherto had no one to care for them, and who were now rapidly falling into the gulf of dissent. An episcopal edifice was soon erected; an evangelical clergyman was appointed; and Sunday and day schools were opened. The good man at first professed to be very catholic in his feelings towards all who loved Christ; but having, in some degree, gained his end, the natural intolerance of the system, with which he is connected, began to show itself. His favours, in the shape of clothing, &c., were confined to the church-goers; and soon the benefits of day school instruction were made dependent on attendance at the church Sunday school. Things at the chapel were beginning to wear a sombre appearance; and serious apprehensions were felt about the result. An incident, however, of an interesting character led to the adoption of measures which have completely turned the tide, and defeated the abettors of churchism and intolerance. A fine lad, of about eleven years of age, in spite of the arbitrary demands of the clergyman, and the wishes of his friend, felt determined to return to the chapel Sunday school, and yet his love of learning led him to the church day school, where, it should be mentioned, he paid full price for his instruction. One Sunday he was carefully guarded as far as the door of the church school, but he contrived there to make his escape, and get by the side of his chosen teacher at chapel. Exasperated at the conduct of the lad, the clergyman, on the Monday, unceremoniously turned him, bag and baggage, out of the school. This was a crisis. Accordingly, Mr Baker, having consulted a few friends in the neighbourhood, and obtained promises of support, at once engaged a teacher, and opened a day school in the vestry of his chapel. The plan succeeded, and the influence of the clergyman began to wane. The rod, which he had held *ad terrem* over the heads of the people, was broken. It was no longer in his power to withhold secular instruction from the children of the place, unless their parents would consent to have them crammed with church-of-Englandism. A few weeks ago a still more decisive crisis occurred. A member of the dissenting church was gored to death by a bull; and Mr Baker, anxious to turn the melancholy event to some good account, announced his intention to deliver a discourse on the occasion. The church schoolmaster ventured to gratify his desire hear it. For this he was summoned into the presence of his clerical master, who charged him with the enormous guilt of schism, and threatened him with instant deprivation, if he repeated the sin of chapel-going. The schoolmaster, who, breathing the same air that Alfred once breathed, and being, moreover, it is hoped, a good man, seems to have some feelings about him proper to a man and a Christian, nobly stood his ground: and not liking what he called "priestly domination," refused, when sent for, to make his appearance at the school, and has been summarily dismissed. The immediate influence of these events has been very gratifying to every lover of liberty and truth. Tyranny is defeated. The dissenting chapel is well attended, and the schools, both day and Sunday, are in a very flourishing state. The prospects of dissent, with which the interests of truth are identified, have never been so cheering in the place. A little courage and energy on the part of dissenters will, in the end, elsewhere, as well as at Boroughbridge, bring down the meditated mischief of high and exclusive churchism upon its own pate. The above statement has been made public in hope of raising the spirits of any who are depressed by the crushing efforts of Puseyite bigots.

SCOTCH CHURCH.

SINGULAR SCENE.—One of the strangest scenes which has occurred during the whole commotions of the kirk, took place in the parish church here on Sunday last. The new presentee to the parish, the Rev. John Wilson, of Walston, is very unpopular in the parish, principally, it would appear, from his unattractive style of preaching, and his slavish use of "the paper"—a practice in peculiarly bad odour in the locality. On Sunday last, Mr Wilson preached to the congregation, by appointment of the presbytery, preparatory to the moderation of the call. In the forenoon Mr Wilson preached to a pretty large audience, the usual "residuary" congregation being swelled by a number belonging both to the united secession and the "Free church," attracted by curiosity. The reverend gentleman's forenoon ministrations were far from giving satisfaction, and between the two services a plot seems consequently to have been concocted, which was executed with great effect in the afternoon. The first symptom of discontent presented itself to Mr Wilson in the shape of a visit between sermons from the precentor, who announced that he could not conscientiously officiate in the afternoon, as he "did not like this business," and thought that no good could come out of it to any one concerned. Undismayed by this desertion, Mr Wilson again proceeded to the pulpit, in the hope that a volunteer precentor would be found among the audience. In this, however, he was disappointed, and, on giving out the psalm, an entire stoppage ensued for a full quarter of an hour; but at the end of that time, a farmer succeeded in persuading a person belonging to the "Free church" to raise the tune. Matters then went on smoothly till Mr Wilson began his sermon, when he had no sooner resorted to "the paper," than the whole congregation, with very few exceptions, rose and left the church! The affair has naturally excited considerable talk in the district, and is curious as a proof that the "Free church" has not carried away with her all the unmanageable material.

We understand that the Earl of Aberdeen, on an application by the Rev. Mr Manson and the adherents

to the free church in Fyvie, for a site on which to build a church, has, in the most liberal manner, returned an immediate answer, expressing his willingness to grant a site on any part of his property that may be most suitable for that purpose.—*Caledonian Mercury.*

KENDAL.—The congregation seceding from the Scotch secession church of Kendal, on account of the suspension and dismission of the Rev. John Guthrie by the synod, held in April last, in Edinburgh, have met hitherto in a large room called the Odd Fellows' hall. At a meeting of the church and congregation, held on Monday evening last, it was decided that arrangements be immediately entered into for erecting a plain and commodious place of worship; and that a subscription be immediately entered into for defraying the expenses of the building. About £250 was given at the meeting. It was resolved not to commence the building until £500 had been raised. It is expected the whole cost will not exceed £700.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

- Arms (Ireland) bill, against, 2.
- Church of Ireland, for abolition of, 1.
- Coalwhippers bill, against, 1.
- Corn laws, for repeal of, 15.
- County Courts bill, for, 5.
- against, 1.
- Factories bill, against, 4.
- Poor Relief (Ireland) act, for amendment of, 6.
- Union with Ireland, for repeal of, 1.

PUBLIC BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

BILLS PRESENTED AND READ A FIRST TIME.

- 1. Defamation and Libel bill.
- 2. Fisheries bill.
- 3. Sudbury Commission bill.
- 4. Land Revenue bill.
- 5. Colonial Jurisdiction bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

- 1. Fisheries bill.
- 2. Sudbury Commission bill.
- 3. Land Revenue bill.
- 4. Foreign Jurisdiction bill.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

- 1. Slave Trade (Austria) bill.
- 2. Slave Trade (Portugal) bill.
- 3. Slave Trade (Chile) bill.
- 4. Slave Trade (Mexico) bill.
- 5. Coalwhippers bill.
- 6. Highway Rates bill.
- 7. Limitation of Actions (Ireland) bill.
- 8. Poor Relief (Ireland) bill.
- 9. Mandamus Appeals bill.
- 10. Bishops' Relief (Ireland) bill.
- 11. Theatres Regulation bill.
- 12. Supply.—£1,281,211, to make good to certain holders of opium, surrendered in China in March, 1839, the amount of compensation due to them under the fourth article of the treaty of peace with China; £821,020, expenses of the expedition to China; £25,300, expenses of the service in Canada; £5000, works carrying upon the Caledonian canal in the year 1843; £4500, harbour of Port Patrick; £5000, for commission to inquire into best mode of preserving the public health; £7000, commission to inquire into the operation of the poor laws (Scotland); £1500, Monuments, Lord Exmouth, Sir Sidney Smith, and Lord De Saumarez; £1903 16s. 5d., interest to holders of forged exchequer bills; £3500, expenses of destitute emigrants, Australia; £500,000, services of former years; £155,635, for disembodied militia.
- 13. Customs bill.
- 14. Attorneys and Solicitors bill.
- 15. Episcopal Functions bill.

BILLS READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

- 1. Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction bill.
- 2. Excise bill.
- 3. Stamps bill.
- 4. Slave Trade (Austria) bill.
- 5. Slave Trade (Portugal) bill.
- 6. Slave Trade (Chile) bill.
- 7. Slave Trade (Mexico) bill.
- 8. Highway Rates bill.
- 9. Warrants of Attorney bill.
- 10. Bishops' Relief (Ireland) bill.
- 11. Limitation of Actions (Ireland) bill.
- 12. Mandamus Appeals bill.
- 13. Theatres Regulation bill.

MOTIONS.

Church property (Ireland).—Motion made and question proposed, "That an humble address be presented to her Majesty, representing to her Majesty that, in the opinion of this House, it is not by measures for the repression of local violence that the discontents of Ireland can be allayed, but by removing those grievances which have formed, for many years, the subject of recorded complaint and remonstrance between the two countries:

"That amongst the most prominent of these is the law by which the whole ecclesiastical property of Ireland is assigned to the clergy of a small section of the population; and that this House, deeply impressed with the belief that such a law is not conformable to reason, or to the practice of any Christian country, pledges itself, after providing for existing proprietary rights, and for the claims of her Majesty's protestant subjects, cordially to co-operate with her Majesty in effecting such a settlement of church property in Ireland as will remove all just ground of complaint, and give satisfaction to the Irish people."—(Mr Ward.)

Supply.—That the order of the day for the committee of supply be now read? amendment proposed, to leave out from the words "That the" to the end of the question, in order to add the words, "petition of inhabitants of the borough of Kingston-upon-Hull, complaining of the illegal manner in which a public meeting of the inhabitants of that town, convened for the purpose of petitioning parliament, was dispersed by the police (which was presented upon the 9th day of May last), be referred to a select committee, and that the said committee do report their opinion thereupon, with the evidence, to the House."—(Mr Thomas Duncombe)—instead thereof. Question put, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question?" the House divided; ayes 83, noes 29.

DEBATES.

Tuesday, August 1st.

THE IRISH CHURCH.

In the postscript of our last number we were able only incidentally to refer to the debate on the preceding evening, more especially to the interesting speech of the member for Sheffield. We therefore subjoin a condensed report of that night's discussion:

Mr WARD, in bringing forward the motion of which he had given notice, said that this was pre-eminently a practical question. It was a bar to that union

which they all desired. It was a stumbling-block in every system. It was a source of national weakness in the midst of apparent strength. It was a constant rot eating into the constitution. Temporalities acts and appropriation clauses were very well ten years ago as a beginning—as the first step towards a great national compromise of a difficult question; and if they had chosen to act in the spirit of his resolution of 1834, and adopted such a proposition by the bill of 1835 and 1836, and to prune down, while there was yet time, the redundancies of the Irish establishment, he believed that that compromise, accepted as it was by the majority of Irish members in that house, would have been satisfactory, if assented to. The hon. member then showed that the protestant establishment in Ireland had originated in injustice; that the original clergy, the Roman catholic, had been driven from their livings; not sacrificing their principles, as had been done in England. The liturgy of the Irish establishment had never been translated into the language of the people it professed to teach. After quoting numerous historical facts, and commenting upon them, Mr Ward said that the Irish church measures of the late ministry were only attempts to retain the bulk of what was unjustly held, by sacrificing a part. The church was at the opposition to the miserable franchises in Ireland. It was an obstacle to all reform in that country. He then referred to the political corruption by which the church had sought to supply its deficiency in moral strength. He would take one case, because he had learned it from the authority of an Irish clergyman of the established church.

Lord Robert Tottenham, the present bishop of Clogher, derived an income of ninety thousand pounds sterling per annum, and had never performed any ecclesiastical duty; he had never read the service, he had never married any one, he had never christened any one, he had never buried any one, in any part of the world, until he was made a bishop in Ireland [laughter and cheers]. But then his father, the Marquis of Ely, had six votes [cheers]. He did not state this fact for the purpose of wounding the feelings of an individual, but only to show what had been the system [hear, hear]. Let them look to the amount of wealth possessed by these bishops. Dr Stuart, the bishop of Armagh, died after twenty-two years' enjoyment of the bishopric, and then left £300,000 behind him [hear, hear]. Dr Porter, the bishop of Clogher, who was a very poor man when he was made bishop, left £250,000 behind him in a very few years.

He then proceeded to detail the actual amount of revenues enjoyed by the Irish establishment.

Called the "Irish church"—the church was only the church of the state, and was Irish but in name. What were its present revenues, he had taken pains to ascertain:—

Gross episcopal revenue (land and tithe) £151,127

Deans and prebends (exclusive of those attached to sees) 34,481

Minor canons and vicars chorals 10,515

Altogether £196,123

Parochial benefits (glebes, tithes, minister's money, offerings, &c.) £610,615

Gross receipts £806,784

Deducting bishops' incomes £162,258

Deducting bishops' tithes 91,773

£254,031

There remained an annual income of £552,753

Then as to the population—no more recent data could be obtained than those supplied by the census of 1831:—

Protestant episcopalians 852,000

Presbyterians 612,000

Other protestant dissenters 21,000

Altogether 1,515,000

Catholics 6,427,712

But the Wesleyan methodists had been included in the estimate of episcopalians, whose numbers, if they were subtracted, would be reduced to 732,000, and the number of protestant dissenters would be increased to 764,000. Now the average annual cost of episcopal education was £5s. a head; for the presbyterians (with the *regium donum*), £s. a head. While, for the catholics there was no provision by the state at all. He had never heard, however, that the presbyterians or dissenters were less moral or religious than the episcopalians.

He would give one instance, out of many, of the manner in which the livings were at present distributed.

One of his numerous correspondents had sent him a map of Kilkenny, and there (the hon. member pointing to the map, which he held up to the House) lay this parish, extending from one end of the county to the other [hear, hear], and he would ask whether any spiritual duty could be performed in a church so situated as was that. The living was £800*s.* a year, and the union comprised 11 parishes; and what was the natural consequence of the union, which had existed for the last 100 years? Why, in 1731, the protestants in three of the parishes were 69. In 1831, they were only 52. In another parish they were 34 in 1731; in 1831, they were only 32. In another parish they were, in 1731, 31; in 1831 they were only 6 [hear, hear]. So that in spite of that enormous aggregation of revenue, there had been a constant falling off of protestants. Then the Temporalities act did not come into operation when the livings were in the gift of lay patrons. But he would mention another instance of a union. It was a living of £2,339*s.* a year, comprising six parishes, spread over an enormous extent of country. The church was in Cavan; but it would puzzle even the clergyman himself to find a protestant in one half of the parishes. There were only 328 protestants for the six different parishes [hear, hear].

He admitted that at the present day there were many bishops on the bench who were ornaments to it; but the church had still very great abuses; for instance, some of the unions, containing a number of parishes thrown together, as it should seem, for the purpose of making a rich provision for some favoured incumbent. The existence of such a church was regarded by the Irish not only as an injury, but as an insult. Being men, they must be governed, and they could not be governed thus. You could not thus govern 8,000,000 of people, living in the midst of you, and knit together by the bond of a common injustice. On the Continent, in Austria and in Prussia, the true principle was well understood; this country alone was ignorant of it. He then, at some length, detailed his proposed plan.

His principle would be, take all religions equally on the tithe, and pay them out of it. Break up the present establishment. He considered archbishops and bishops totally unsuited to such a state of society as that of Ireland. Give up that cumbersome machinery, for cumbersome it was, and nothing more. It was not necessary for the spiritual education of the people. Look only to the working clergy, and take the standard of what was necessary for the wants of the presbyterian ministers, as being equally necessary for that of the episcopalians. Follow out the Church Temporalities act, and accompany all this with every demonstration that what was done was honestly meant, and that these concessions were not to be taken from those they were given to. Give the Roman catholic bishops a legal position. Give back the churches which the Roman catholics built before the Reformation, and which the protestant families were unable to fill at present. Get rid of all those petty annoyances which were fretting in the bosom of every Roman catholic family wherever by these unions the burial-grounds of their ancestors were put in the power of the protestant clergyman, and made inaccessible to them without his leave. Make the catholic clergy the link, as Mr Pitt desired to have made them, between the Crown and the people. It was his firm belief that if the House of Commons took that course they might succeed in convincing even the hon. member for Cork (Mr Roche), and in changing that provincial feeling of nationality which appeared just now to influence the Irish people into what he might call an imperial nationality, founded upon a perfect community of interests. But as he proposed to alienate the property of the Irish church, he might also be expected to state in what way he proposed to apply the fund so alienated. With the permission of the House he would do so. According to the last returns he took the amount of that property to be £552,753*s.* per annum. In re-applying that amount, he begged, in the first place, to say, that he would proceed on the principle of respecting all existing interests, of paying every incumbent, however long his life might be, every shilling to which he might be entitled; he would divide the amount, after regarding those interests, between the three religions in Ireland according to the numerical proportion of each. To the protestant episcopalians he proposed to give one-third, or about 78,000*s.* To the presbyterians and Wesleyans he proposed to give another eighth of the same amount, and the remainder, or about 400,000*s.* per annum, he proposed to devote to the catholics. Then he would substitute the congregational for the parochial system; he would break up the parishes, and pay according to the number of the flocks, and not the size of the parishes. If the regum donum of 75,000*s.* a year was found to be enough for the spiritual instruction of 652,000 presbyterians, surely 78,000*s.* would be enough for the working clergy of the episcopalians. The 400,000*s.* which he proposed to devote to the catholics should be paid into the hands of their bishops for the purpose of building chapels and schools, and repairing them, for other purposes connected with the spiritual instruction of the people, and for making Maynooth something like what such an establishment for such a people ought to be. An annual statement of the distribution of the funds he proposed should be furnished by the Irish secretary, parliament reserving to itself a right of control over the money, so that it might, if necessary, be applied to other purposes connected with national education.

Now as to the objections which might be made to his plan. It would be said, we must look to the truth of the religion we establish; but he contended that no party or majority had a right to pronounce upon such a question. If this were justifiable anywhere, it was justifiable everywhere, and Lord Ellenborough in India ought to parade the 39 articles instead of the gates of Somnauth. Then, the catholic religion was said to be dangerous. Why, it was the only form in which Christianity had flourished for many centuries; it was the elder type of our own religion. The spirit in which the House should proceed to-night would have a great effect upon the question of union, and he would fain see the two countries made one in a perfect equality, civil and religious.

Mr CAREW, in a temperate speech, seconded the motion.

Lord ELIOT said, that certainly this was no vague proposal; it was definite enough! But the question now was not what would have been, *a priori*, the fittest church establishment for Ireland: the existing establishment had been fixed as the condition of the union; and without that union, so purchased, catholic emancipation would never have been peacefully carried. Mr Ward had admitted that no man who voted for this address could stop there; and it was therefore for gentlemen to consider whether they were prepared to vote for the total destruction of the protestant church.

He (Lord Eliot) presumed that the noble lord sitting near the hon. member for Sheffield—that the noble lord the member for London, and the noble lord the member for Tiverton, would use rather different language upon this subject [cheers]. One of those noble lords was for putting the Roman catholic church in Ireland on an equality with the establishment, but neither of them went to the extent of suggesting a total alienation of the property of the latter. The noble lord the member for Tiverton would have the mortmain statutes relaxed as far as regarded the Roman catholic church, but such a proposition as that would find no countenance in this motion, but, on the contrary, would be laughed to scorn. He would say to the hon. member for Sheffield, in the words of the poet—

"Quid faciam vis?

"Denique non omnes eadem mirantur amantque,

"Tres mihi conviva prop̄ dissidente videntur,

"Poscentes vario multum diversa palato,

"Quid dem? quid non dem? Remnis tu quod jubet alter;

"Quid petis, id san̄ est invisa acridumque dubus."

[laughter.] Such was the position in which the hon. member for Sheffield was placed [renewed laughter and cheers]. He (Lord Eliot) certainly looked with great curiosity to the declarations which the noble lords the members for London and Tiverton would make upon the present motion, for he felt it would be impossible for them to vote for the resolution, couched even as vaguely as it was [cheers]. Would the noble lord, the member for London, or the noble lord, the member for Tiverton, vote for doing away with the hierarchy of Ireland, even if for a moment it could be supposed that the majority of the House would support them [cheers]! To suppose that such a course would be a remedy for Irish grievances was but a mockery of the Irish people.

Mr Ward had said that the English and Scotch nations would never consent to tax themselves for the maintenance of the Roman catholic clergy. Did he suppose those two nations would ever consent to the abolition of the protestant church? The language now employed was strangely at variance with the assurances given when the emancipation was carried. There was then, on the subject of the church, a distinct understanding and compact, which it would be a plain breach of faith in the government now to violate.

Wednesday, August 2nd.

THE IRISH CHURCH.

The adjourned debate on Mr Ward's motion was resumed by Mr Trelawny, who put forward some views on the subject of church establishments rather new to the house of commons. After referring to and answering the various objections to an interference with the protestant establishment in Ireland, he proceeded—

Another objection to interference with the revenues of the Irish church was, "that any invasion of its rights would involve an invasion of the English church." In particular, it was said, "If perfect equality between the two religions be conceded, how can you refuse the Irish bishops seats in the house of Lords?" He replied, "Remove all the bishops from the house of Lords, and you get rid of the difficulty at once." Having noticed these general objections, he should endeavour to establish three propositions with regard to this subject. He should attempt to prove, first, that a church establishment was unjust towards those who, dissenting from it, were compelled to contribute out of their means to the propagation of principles they disallowed. This proposition ought to require little more than to be stated to be at once admitted. Religious, like civil, liberty was the

THE NONCONFORMIST.

being bound by no law but that which conduces in a higher degree to the public good, and the *onus* of showing that a church establishment was desirable remained with those who supported it. The state had no right to say to any individual, "However good and virtuous a member of society you may be—however strictly you adhere to the civil and municipal laws of your commonwealth, you shall suffer in your person or estate unless you assist us in diffusing doctrines you reject as unsupported by adequate testimony." The state first assumed the truth of the doctrines it supported, and then endeavoured to compel others to assent to them in spite of their conscientious convictions to the contrary. The state must, therefore, appear to the dissenter to be nothing better than a subornor of heresy. He should next endeavour to prove that religious establishments were impolitic, and especially baneful to the very faith they proposed to diffuse. The greatest security of orthodoxy was the liberty of preaching any doctrines, however absurd. By such liberty he meant liberty in the largest sense of the word, which not merely guaranteed the right of preaching any doctrine, but exempted both preacher and congregation from liability either to suffer in their persons for, or contribute out of their means to, the propagation of tenets to which they could not subscribe. It would be said, "Where such liberty exists all kinds of follies will be propagated amongst the more ignorant, and therefore more credulous, of the people." That there existed this danger could not be denied; but the very multiplicity, which seemed so dangerous, was the greatest defence of the belief which was true. The very variety of doctrines to which the fullest license of propagating them gave rise naturally awakened in the minds of rational inquirers a sense of the importance of such a scrutinising investigation of the question, "What is truth?" as was calculated to confirm rather than weaken the probability of their discovering it. Again, absurd beliefs neutralised each other; they fell to pieces by degrees, in proportion to the shallowness of their inventors. But the instant a particular belief received support from any quarter, such as the state sometimes afforded, that moment it received a blow from which it must materially suffer at some time or other. The believers in other creeds exclaimed, "Ah! you could not stand upon your own internal evidences; you would fall but for external aid, whilst we stand in spite of opposition. Give us your advantages, and see how much more diffused our doctrines would be." Now, as there was generally but one favoured sect, and as the unprotected, or rather discouraged, sects, were very numerous, and as each of these last used the same argument against the former, much injury was done to an established church by the aid it received; and thus, both in religion and trade, the objects of protection became its victims too. How much better to let the truths of Christianity rest upon their own merits!

The church establishment in Ireland, he maintained, produced in the catholics, on the one hand, an artificial aversion to protestant principles, coupled with a reluctance to inquire into the merits of a religion whose practical fruits were so intolerable; and, on the other, a closer and more affectionate adherence to the ceremonies, ritual, and creed of the proscribed religion, from which they derived, amidst the desolation of misrule, the few consolations they enjoyed. Thus, the practice of the legislature tended, first, to confirm catholics in their own faith; and secondly, to estrange them from our own; and hence, our policy justifies the melancholy observation, that the conduct of religionists was too often such as to give colour to the sarcasm, that they deemed religion so good a thing that they sought a monopoly of its consolations by repelling the overtures of willing proselytes, and rendering the paths of conformity more thorny and its barriers less surmountable. He then brought forward various facts to prove that the state church in Ireland was especially impolitic, and concluded with an appeal to government to adopt remedial measures towards that country.

Sir R. INGLIS commenced* by a reference to the sentiments of Mr Trelawny.

The honourable member had taunted that side of the house as to one difficulty which had been urged with respect to putting the protestant and catholic churches on an equality. The honourable member said that a difficulty had been raised as to admitting the catholic hierarchy into the House of Lords, and he observed that this might be got rid of at once, by the removal of all bishops from the other house. He was surprised to hear such an observation come from any honourable member, but little did he expect to hear such expressions emanate from the descendant of one of the same illustrious bishops who had done so much for the constitution and the church [hear, hear, hear]. To say the least of such language, it did not seem most graceful in falling from the lips of the honourable member.

He maintained the title of the church to its endowments. The mover, whatever else might be imputed to him, could not be accused of having deceived the House; he had taken away from Lord John Russell and his partisans all excuse for voting in favour of the motion. He had broadly proposed to strip from the church in Ireland all the revenue it possessed except £70,000; that is, to take away seven-eighths, or 17s. 6d. in the pound; and yet had gravely added, that this was no unworthy compromise! He had left the church with scarce a rag to cover her nakedness, and then, putting a halter round her neck, had handed the other end of the rope to her bitterest enemies. The manner of the hon. member had, indeed, been courteous; but the bowstring was not less fatal because it might be made of silk. He admitted that in some respects the church of Ireland had failed of her duty; in particular, the scriptures ought to have been translated into the language of the people. But he denied the validity of the arguments deduced from former abuses of that church, and showed the improvements of its ministry in recent times. Mr Ward, however, grounded his reasoning mainly upon numbers, and was prepared to establish the creed of Bramah or of Fo, if it were the creed of the majority. From that principle he dissented; for he was persuaded that it was just as much our public as our private duty to teach and advance what we believed to be the true religion. The question, moreover, was not what religion we should establish; the motion went not to establish a religion, but to destroy one already established; and that, too, by more than any ordinary law, by a compact of two independent legislatures. The multitudes, therefore, who were collected to destroy that establishment were not entitled to plead that they were seeking only the repeal of a statute. When emancipation was conceded, it was upon the assurances, given by the leading catholics themselves, that it would not be employed to weaken, but would rather avail to fortify, the protestant church. He would maintain that church, because he believed its doctrine to be the truth.

Besides these objections to the honourable member's speech, the general grounds on which he should resist the motion was that he believed that the church established by law in Ireland was the true church. That was his belief, and on that he was

bound to act. Whoever believed that the church of England was the truth, be he whig or tory, was bound by his principles to maintain it, and must believe that it was consistent with the national interest. Not only did he believe that the truth was to be found in the church as by law established—he believed that the truth was enshrined in our constitution, and that the church existed by an authority superior to a common act of parliament—a treaty between two independent nations; and he believed that, practically, nothing but a system of benefits was conferred by the existence of the church on the Irish population. The honourable member took a different view, and proposed to sacrifice the church, appropriating its property to the catholics, and only leaving the church with a sum of £75,000. His respect for the established church was such that he said she was entitled not only to the indulgence, or to the toleration, but to the gratitude of the country. Believing too that the established church was the great link which preserved the union between the two countries—for all these reasons, with his whole heart, and the deepest and most conscientious conviction, he gave his decided opposition to the motion of the hon. member [hear].

The Earl of LISTOWEL warmly and emphatically condemned the past policy of England towards Ireland, the blame of which he did not wish to throw on any existing party, but which now required to be dealt with vigorously and impartially, if we wished to retain the affections of the people, or to preserve the union. Hitherto there had been no real union; the Lord-lieutenancy was itself a source of discord; and we must act on the "golden rule" with respect to the churches both of the majority and minority.

Lord BERNARD contended for the apostolicity of the church of England in Ireland, which he supported, not because it was the church of the majority of the empire, but because it was essential to the welfare of a protestant state to maintain the ascendancy of the protestant church. The establishment was not to be tried by its character in the times of Primate Boulter, but by its usefulness and activity in the present day—respecting which he furnished certain details, in order to show the importance and necessity of sustaining a church whose ruin would involve that of the empire.

Mr COCHRANE said, that the maintenance of the union was involved in that of the church. The endowment of the Roman catholic priesthood was a very different proposition from that of appropriating the revenue of the establishment. He entertained a sincere respect for the Roman catholic priesthood and people, but would not admit that the church was the great grievance of Ireland, whose evils he traced to the policy of government. He did not see that the concessions already made had improved our position. The expediency of paying the Roman catholic clergy was a very different question from the fitness of stripping the protestant church. He then adverted to the course which "young England" had adopted in the debate on Mr Smith O'Brien's motion, and the censure which had been bestowed on them in consequence by the government and its supporters. He, for one, would not sacrifice his independence to party considerations.

Mr VILLIERS STUART contended that the question of the established church in Ireland was not one of religion but of property—not of faith but of money. England and Scotland had each a church for the majority, and if they wished to restore peace and tranquillity to Ireland, they must raise it to an equality with the rest of the empire.

Mr HARDY, considering that the primary function of the established church in Ireland was to preach the gospel, defended it on scriptural grounds. While he was speaking, notice was taken that there were not forty members present, which proving to be the case, the House adjourned at eight o'clock.

Thursday, August 3rd.

MR WARD'S MOTION.

Mr WARD adverted to the "counting out" of the House on the previous evening. He laid the chief blame on the opposition, for not supporting him; the government had treated him fairly, and therefore he could not expect to renew his motion during the present session.

Mr ESCOTT, who had made the motion for "counting out" the House, explained why he did so, which was, because he considered that no interest was taken in the question by the opposition, or the House generally.

Mr E. B. ROCHE thanked Mr Escott for having torn off the flimsy veil under which the opposition had been masquerading. The condition of Ireland was the pet question of the whigs, yet none of the leaders of the party were present, and he himself, for a considerable period, was left "all alone in his glory" on the front rank of the opposition benches. He was strongly tempted himself to "count out the House," but thinking that, as a repealer, his motives might be misinterpreted, he went into the tea room to have a cup of tea, and in the meantime his confident expectation was realised, by the House being "counted out." Ireland had nothing to hope for, except from Irishmen.

Captain BERNAL reminded Mr Roche that only five Irish members were present at the time.

Mr MONKTON MILNES and Sir George Grey added a few observations, after which

Mr REDHEAD YORKE remarked that the lateness of the session was not a justification for "parliament walking out of the house."

Mr SHAW corrected the assertion of Mr Ward, that the liturgy had never been printed in Irish. The very first book ever printed in Dublin was a prayer-book in Irish.

Mr BLEWITT attacked the government, particularly Sir James Graham, who, he said, had hidden himself behind the Speaker's chair. But

Sir JAMES GRAHAM retorted, that while the mover and seconder of the motion were absent, four members of the cabinet were present at the "counting out" of the House.

The House afterwards went into committee on the Limitation of Actions (Ireland) bill, and the Poor Law Amendment (Ireland) bill.

OPIUM COMPENSATION.

The House having gone into committee of supply,

Sir GEORGE CLERK moved that £1,281,211 be paid as compensation to the holders of the opium destroyed by the Chinese. The whole of the sum given by the Chinese government was awarded to the owners of the opium; and, as this was at the rate of 64 a chest—a much larger sum than the average price at the time—he felt confident in the equity and justice of the proposition.

Mr MANGLES entered into details, affirming that two-thirds of the confiscated opium belonged to natives of India, who knew no other government in this transaction than that of Britain, and relied on the justice and good faith of this country. The compensation awarded was only, in some cases, one-half, and in others one-third of the value of the destroyed opium; and, in addition to the individual wrong and suffering, there would be the injury inflicted on our public credit, which, at present, was potent in the very heart of central India. He insisted on the justice of giving the invoice price, as the indemnification, and asked for a committee, or, in any form, a searching investigation into the facts.

Mr LINDSAY advocated a similar view of the case.

THE CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER contended that the government were not pledged to pay the invoice price for the smuggled opium, or to give the owners whatever value they might assign. He did not rest his defence on any general grounds of the immorality or illegality of the traffic: it was subject to constant fluctuation, and the invoice price could not be taken as the basis of indemnification. The market, at the period of confiscation, was completely glutted; and the government having made official inquiry, were satisfied that the compensation now offered was much higher than the actual value. The opinions of Captain Elliot, the Governor-general of India, and Sir Henry Pottinger, were in favour of the appropriation of the six millions of dollars which had been demanded from the Chinese, as a full and sufficient compensation; and the government were conscientiously satisfied that their proposition was in complete accordance with the justice of the case, and the good faith and character of the country.

Sir THOMAS WILDE spoke on behalf of the opium holders. The Chinese government had possessed themselves of the surrendered opium under the pressing fear and immediate penalties of death. It was surrendered on the faith of the British government, and at a certain conventional value; that value was embodied on negotiable paper, called "scrip," and transferred from one hand to another, according to the necessities of the seller; but the price at which scrip might be parted with was no test of the original value parted with on British faith, and the repayment of which was sanctioned by similar precedents in the cases of France, Spain, and Denmark, and where we had not gone to war to enforce compensation. Captain Elliot's conduct, in the critical circumstances under which he was placed, was unimpeachable; and the honour of the British government being pledged, the only question was, as to the fair amount due to the parties who were to be compensated, that being the primary cause of the war.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL denied that the primary cause of the war was compensation for the destroyed opium; it was to maintain the honour of the country. He argued that the trade, being in contravention of the laws of China, and liable to constant interruption, was subject to extreme and often ruinous fluctuations in price; and all who embarked in it knew that they were engaged in an illegal traffic, which was as variable as transactions in the funds. The opium confiscated was surrendered at a particular crisis, and on the distinct principle that its value should be afterwards determined by the British government. That value had been determined, and in the treaty with China six millions of dollars was defined as the amount of compensation; and it would clearly be unjust to re-open the account with the Chinese government.

Mr J. A. SMITH, Sir R. PEEL, Lord PALMERSTON, Mr HUME, Sir R. H. INGLIS, Mr P. M. STEWART, Dr BOWRING, and Mr B. WOOD, took part in the discussion. Lord PALMERSTON proposed the omission of the words which recognised the 4th article of the treaty with China, because the treaty was yet unknown to parliament. After some further debate, a division took place, when the amendment was rejected by 74 to 27.

Friday, August 4th.

INTERFERENCE OF THE POLICE.

On the motion for going into committee of Supply, Mr THOMAS DUNCOMBE called attention to the petition from Hull, complaining of the illegal manner in which a public meeting of the inhabitants of that town, convened for the purpose of petitioning Parliament, was dispersed by the police. He asked for a select committee to inquire into the facts.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM explained that the meeting was held in the open air, in the market place of Hull, after dark, at eight o'clock, in the month of April; and it was dispersed without violence, on the sole ground that it interrupted the thoroughfare at an inconvenient and unseasonable hour.

After some remarks from Mr GISBORNE,

Mr HUME professed his incapacity for understanding how it was unconstitutional for people to meet in the dark. The conduct of the magistrates was highly culpable.

Mr HUTT and Mr P. HOWARD added some further observations, and then Mr T. Duncombe pressed his motion to a division, when it was defeated by 83 to 29.

Saturday, August 5th.

CUSTOMS BILL.

The object of this bill is to effect certain alterations in, and amendments of, the customs laws, relating to sundry different and distinct articles. The particular stage of the bill was its consideration in committee;

in which Mr BANKES made a long speech, criticising different portions of the bill, but particularly the clause which gives effect to an article in the treaty of Washington, by enacting that the agricultural produce of that portion of the state of Maine, which is watered by the river St John and its tributaries, shall be treated as if the produce of New Brunswick, and admitted as colonial.

The House having resolved itself into committee on the bill, and the various clauses having been considered; on arriving at the clause complained of particularly by Mr Banks, a discussion arose, in which Mr GLADSTONE and Lord STANLEY explained that it did not relate to corn, for no corn grew in the district, but to the timber which grew on the banks of the St John. It was impossible, Lord Stanley said, to act otherwise; for the timber cut in the winter was left upon the ice, and in the spring floated down the river, and all attempts to distinguish on what side it was cut would be fruitless. Once brought into the port of St John, in New Brunswick, the timber was treated as British colonial produce; and by the traffic thus guaranteed, a large trade was insured to the important town of St John. Any fear of an importation of corn was groundless, as the state of Maine was not to be reckoned as a corn-growing country, and imported rather than exported.

Mr BANKES was not satisfied, and moved, as an amendment, the insertion of the words, "except the produce of agriculture." This Sir ROBERT PEEL opposed, on the ground that it would not be keeping faith with the United States; and the amendment was negatived without a division. The bill was then carried through committee.

Monday, August 7th.

FREE TRADE.

On the motion for going into committee of supply, Mr EWART raised a brief debate on the great and important principles of free trade. His motion was, that it was expedient that the principles advanced in the celebrated import duties committee of 1840 should now be recognised in legislation, and at once applied as a remedy for the depression of commerce and the distress of the people.

Mr MILNER GIBSON followed in a short but spirited speech.

Mr GLADSTONE referred to the thinness of the attendance, as evincing the exhaustion of the House, and the inutility of pressing such a debate as the present at this period of the session. These important subjects could not be re-considered at this late season, even if it were fitting to disturb them at all, so soon after the great settlements of them which were made in the last year.

Mr HUME said the motion was a very fair one. The public had begun to apprehend that Sir R. Peel was receding from the free trade principles professed by him a little while ago; and it became reasonable, therefore, to call for a declaration from the right hon. baronet.

Mr BRIGHT rose, and made his "maiden speech" on this, the great subject which has made him a public character. He had now (says the *Chronicle*) to address a new audience, and one which, however some may affect to despise its judgment, is a critical tribunal, and before which the boldest speaker feels, for the first time, nervous. Mr Bright evinced a little of this, more especially as the house was in a cold, chilly state, very different from that inspiring kind of scene which, in a popular meeting, gives life and enthusiasm to a speaker. The new member for Durham, however, evinced considerable coolness and self-possession, after starting. He said he was glad to be there as the representative of men with hard hands, for the rich had representatives enough. He had been an active member of the League, because he believed that the abolition of the corn law would be the abolition of all other monopolies. He scouted the word protection, which was intended for the property of the rich, not for the labour of the poor. The question was a rent question. Surely the poor man's property in his labour was as sacred as the rich man's in his land, or even more sacred. But the operative made a piece of flannel and sent it to America—corn came back in exchange—and then you compelled him to pay a duty of 12s. upon it in order that he might be driven to buy his corn of the English landlord. He then took a short review of the present condition of the country.

They had heard in that house of the discontent which prevailed in the country, but he feared they had not heard one half of it. Notwithstanding what had been done, there was a spirit of insubordination abroad, such as had not existed for long period, and such as would not have existed for a still longer period if it had not been for bad legislation. In Ireland greater discontent prevailed, and the landlords of that country were now looked upon as the tyrants of the people. In Wales the same sort of spirit prevailed; a riot which had originated in opposition to toll-bars had now assumed the form of opposition to rent. In fact, it seemed that the same feeling respecting the landlords prevailed now in all parts of the empire. In Scotland, even, they were not in the most comfortable position, their usurpation over the national church having occasioned the schism that House was now trying to heal. In England the state of things was even worse, and the feeling now prevailing was not unlikely to result in the same state of things which they now witnessed in Wales and in Ireland. In Northumberland and Durham the other day 20,000 pitmen met, and agreed not to pay more than 4d. per lb. for meat, and for all other things in proportion. It was bad that this state of things should come to pass, and, perhaps, for no class was it so bad as for the class which thus attempted to regulate prices. That House, however, must recollect that the principle was as bad in one case as in another; that if it was irrational for pitmen to attempt to control prices it was equally irrational for landlords to seek to control them [cheers]. The truth was, they had been sowing curses, and now that it was their time to reap them they must not be surprised at finding their seed yield its fruits. They had sown dragon's teeth, and the dragons were now springing up [hear]. He did not at all concur with the President of the Board of Trade in his estimate of what had been done during the present session. It seemed to him that nothing had been done; and that was the feeling that prevailed throughout the country. What they had to expect, or to whom they ought to look for the future, he really could not say.

The motion was rejected by 52 to 25.

DON CARLOS.

Mr BORTHWICK then brought forward a motion respecting the detention of Don Carlos in France; his object being to elicit opinions respecting it.

Mr COCHRANE seconded it, and informed the House that he was personally assured by Don Carlos himself that he was only allowed £1,200 per annum for his establishment, and he was kept in close restraint.

Sir R. PEEL considered that the treatment of Don Carlos ought to be as lenient as was consistent with the object in view. The British government had communicated with the French government, and was assured that it had no disposition to subject Don Carlos to any restraint beyond what was necessary. If he had given any assurance not again to disturb Spain, or had agreed to take up his residence in Austria, he would at once have been liberated.

Dr BOWRING dwelt on the importance of as little interference with the affairs of Spain as possible.

Lord JOHN MANNERS defied Sir Robert Peel or the French government to justify the detention of Don Carlos in Spain, or to extract a plea for it from the most lax interpretation of the quadruple treaty. The cause for which that Prince suffered was the cause of religion, of good order, and of legitimacy. This was proved by the result; Don Carlos had been defeated, and anarchy and infidelity now triumphed over the ancient church of Spain.

Lord PALMERSTON remarked that both the French and British governments had agreed as to the inexpediency of permitting Don Carlos to return to Spain. When that Prince was on the point of being captured, he was saved from his Spanish antagonists by British agents. He was then permitted to take up his residence in England, on the condition that he was not to rekindle the flames of insurrection in Spain. In afterwards returning to that country, he was guilty of a breach of faith. He (Lord Palmerston) was not surprised at the motion, as it arose, no doubt, from the feeling that, in the present distracted condition of Spain, Don Carlos should have a fair start in the general scramble.

The documents asked for, having been considered both by Sir Robert Peel and Lord Palmerston, as not producable, the motion was negatived without a division.

SUPPLY.

The House having resolved itself into committee of supply.

Sir G. CLERK moved a vote of £821,020 for the expenses of the war in China, stating that this sum was a debt due to the East India company. After some explanations, the vote was passed.

Sir G. CLERK moved a vote of £25,300 for military services in Canada. Mr HUME asked why this country should pay a farthing for military force in a colony which had been for some time at peace. No one in the Canadian assembly knew how the money went. Lord STANLEY said, only a month's pay for last year's force was asked, as the reduction did not commence till that period after the beginning of the ensuing financial year; but, virtually, the estimate was for a greatly reduced force. Mr HUME wanted to know why we paid anything under the circumstances. The principle was important and pernicious, and he should divide against the vote. Lord STANLEY said, that in addition to the reductions in the troops which had already been made, the government hoped to withdraw two battalions in the course of the present year. The CHAIRMAN then ordered the gallery to be cleared for a division, on which a large party of opposition members rose and left the house, in order to avoid voting, amidst cheering from the ministerial benches. There were only eighteen out of 108 members to support Mr Hume's motion.

The committee next went into the miscellaneous estimates.

The vote for the Caledonian canal occasioned some debate, but after a division it was carried, and the committee then proceeded with the other miscellaneous votes.

The House having resumed, the other orders of the day were disposed of.

Sir H. HARDINGE then briefly introduced his bill to enable the government to arm and call into active service the out-pensioners of Chelsea hospital.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Thursday, August 3rd.

BREACH OF PRIVILEGE.—Lord Brougham complained of a breach of privilege in the *Examiner* newspaper. In doing so, the noble and learned lord said that these breaches of privilege were much more rank and frequent at the close of a session of parliament than at the beginning, because the malignant writers of those calumnies knew that their utmost punishment would not be more than imprisonment for ten days; he, therefore, gave notice that, on the first day of next session, he would move that the printer of the paper in question be brought to the bar of the house. The noble and learned lord then read the offensive article, which charged him with opposing the Law of Libel bill in order to please the Tories, from whom he (Lord Brougham) expected an appointment. Never, said the noble and learned lord, was there a more false calumny published [hear]. The Lord Chancellor said, that certainly his noble and learned friend had never shown any anxiety to obtain office under the present government; on the contrary, he had been offered the presidency of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, and had refused [hear, hear]. Lord Campbell was about addressing the House, when Lord Brougham rose, and with considerable energy said, that he would put an end to the subject, by stating that he would proceed against the offending party by an action at law [hear, hear]. Their lordships then adjourned.

Monday, August 7th.

CORONERS' INQUEST BILL.—Lord Brougham moved the second reading of this bill. After a short discussion, the bill was thrown out by thirty-one to seven votes.

SCOTCH UNIVERSITIES BILL.—Lord Campbell moved the second reading of this bill, which had for its object to allow professors and officers of the Scotch universities, who had seceded from the established church, to remain for one year, until the matter had been fully considered. It was designed more especially to meet such cases as that of Sir David Brewster, which we alluded to last week. The Earl of Haddington opposed the bill, and moved as an amendment that it be read on that day six months. He apprehended that this bill would be a most mischievous interference in the present state of the Scotch church. It was one thing for that church to refrain from enforcing the law, and another to deprive it of the power it at present possessed. Lord Campbell most deeply lamented the decision to which ministers had come upon this question, and he warned them that the time was not far distant when they would themselves regret it. The mischief would not end with the rejection of Sir D. Brewster and Dr Flemming; that would only be the beginning of the evil, for every episcopalian professor would instantly be put under the ban of the law. In all time to come it would be impossible for any episcopalian to be chancellor or rector of a Scotch university. The bill was then thrown out without a division.

The Complete Suffrage Movement.

THE COUNCIL OF THE UNION held their weekly meeting on Monday, preliminary to a quarterly general meeting of the members and friends in the Public Offices, More street.

Letters were read from Mr R. Somers, Newton Stewart; J. Dunlop, Esq., Edinburgh; Mr Henry Vincent, Plymouth; Mr Thomas Beggs, Nottingham; Wm. Perkins, Manchester; Wm. Beeson, Taunton; H. Hewetson, Kendal; George Earp, Derby, &c.

From Derby Mr Earp writes:—

"Although there has not been the appearance of much doing of late in Derby, still the principles of complete suffrage have been making their way among the electoral body, and I hope soon to be enabled to report favourably of their progress."

Mr Vincent, under date Modbury, Devon, Aug. 5th says,

"I have had very large meetings in Plymouth and Devonport, and very good ones in this place. In Plymouth our cause is taking root, and there is some hope of at least one suffragist being returned to parliament from it."

The correspondent of the union at Pontypool also writes encouragingly, he says:—

"We are about forming a complete suffrage association in this town. The friends at Abergavenny and Newport will also co-operate, and it is most probable Mr Spencer, of Bath, will be invited to both places. I have just received a letter from the last-mentioned town, in which it is remarked, Mr Spencer shall have the largest room in Wales, with some thousand hearers; indeed, with proper organization, the burgh may be secured and the tory's seat for the county made very uneasy."

AYRSHIRE ELECTION.—The Secretary then read a long correspondence with some friends of the suffrage movement in Ayrshire, in reference to the vacancy that had taken place in the representation of that county, occasioned by the death of the Earl of Glasgow, and consequent elevation of Lord Kelburne to the peerage. From this correspondence, it appears that the vacancy having occurred quite unexpectedly, it was considered by the friends in Ayrshire that there was not sufficient time to get the county put into such an efficient state of organisation as was necessary to ensure the return of a complete suffrage candidate, and therefore Mr Oswald of Anchineruive, the tory candidate, was unopposed. Steps were taken for an immediate organisation of the county, so as to be fully prepared for the next vacancy, and it was expected that a majority of complete suffragists would ultimately be obtained.

The Council regretted that their friends in Scotland were not better prepared for contesting such an important county as Ayrshire, and they hope that it will prove an instructive lesson to all constituencies, and show the necessity of being prepared for every contingency.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

THE quarterly meeting was held in the Public Offices, at half-past seven, Mr Sturge in the chair. The minutes of committee having been confirmed, the Secretary read the following report.—

QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL COMPLETE SUFFRAGE UNION.

Immediately after the rising of the last monthly general meeting of the Union, held in the public offices on the evening of May 8th, the executive council completed the arrangements for the soirée, to be given in the Town hall on the 22nd May, to Alderman Weston, and the twenty-six members of the town council who voted in favour of his motion to petition parliament for complete suffrage. That soirée was well attended, and the proceedings were of a very interesting and instructive character.

At noon, on the day on which the soirée took place, a few friends of the suffrage movement, invited by the Council from each of the parliamentary boroughs in the Birmingham district, held a conversational meeting. Important information as to the state of public feeling in the midland counties was communicated by several parties, and various suggestions were made with a view to the more effectual organisation of our friends in furtherance of the principles and objects of the Union. The formation of election committees was urged on the attention of the conference, as a subject of permanent importance.

tance; and there is reason to hope that such committees will be speedily formed.

The report of the Union agreed to at the last monthly general meeting has been printed and circulated.

The arbitrary and unconstitutional measures recently adopted by the government, to suppress the free and peaceful expression of opinion by their fellow-subjects in Ireland, were viewed by the council with alarm and indignation; and without offering a judgment upon the question of a repeal of the union, which they regarded as lying altogether out of their province, they felt it incumbent on them, looking particularly at the unrighteous means by which that union was effected, and the mismanagement by which it had been followed, to claim for Ireland and Irishmen the unquestionable right of discussing that question, and they entered their solemn protest against employing British men and British money to stifle by force the legitimate utterance of the popular voice. A resolution embodying these sentiments was unanimously passed by the Council—published in the *Nonconformist*, the *Sentinel*, and other newspapers, and a copy transmitted to the member for Cork.

The discussion and divisions which took place in the House of Commons, on the 18th of May and 20th of June, when Mr Sharman Crawford moved for leave to introduce the complete suffrage bill of rights, and that the septennial act should be repealed, have confirmed the Council in opinion that the most wise and prudent course of policy that the friends of the suffrage movement can at the present moment pursue, is to commence and continue a decided and immediate action on the electoral body in every part of the kingdom. Impressed with this conviction, the Council in the first place called the attention of the various complete suffrage associations throughout the country to the state of the registrations, and earnestly urged them to take steps for increasing the number of complete suffrage electors on the roll; and secondly to institute election funds, look out for properly qualified candidates, and be prepared for contesting every election, by carrying those candidates through the poll. To facilitate these objects, the Council have pleasure in reporting that they have been presented by Col T. P. Thompson, with a thousand copies of an "Inquiry List," the design of which is "to collect information, from time to time, of the state of the constituencies," and which seems well adapted for the accomplishment of that important end.

In connexion with this topic the executive Council would reiterate their confirmed opinion, that nothing is more essential to the success of the suffrage movement than a firm determination, on the part of its friends, to carry properly qualified candidates through the poll. They are aware that in the eyes of some this determination wears the aspect of exclusiveness, but the Council submit that it is based on sound principle, and peculiarly adapted to the exigencies of the present time. The complete suffragists honestly believe that nothing short of the practical adoption of their principles can save the country, and ameliorate our social condition. It follows that they are bound to follow out their convictions to their legitimate extent.

Through the instrumentality of several talented and influential members of the Union, public lectures have been delivered to a very great extent. It is impossible to calculate the good that has been done by the lectures of the Rev. Thomas Spencer, of Hinton, Bath, during the last three months, in the course of which he has lectured in various county towns; or the valuable results which have already attended the lectures of Henry Vincent in London. "That huge, heartless, money-worshipping city," says Mr Vincent, is now in motion, and "influential associations are springing up in all its boroughs." Not the least gratifying evidence of the truth of this important information is to be found in the fact, that one of the most numerous and influential meetings ever held under the auspices of the Union, took place on the _____, at White Conduit house. The interesting and instructive character of the proceedings on that occasion will be long remembered as a gratifying testimony of the onward progress of our cause.

The Council have to state, that their friend Mr Thomas Beggs, of Nottingham, has consented, at their request, to visit the midland counties for the purpose of holding select, or more public meetings—organising complete suffrage committees—and furthering the cause in any other way he may conceive most suitable to the local circumstances of each particular town. At considerable sacrifice to himself, and without receiving any remuneration for his services, Mr Beggs enters on this important tour, and it is confidently hoped that his disinterested labours will be duly appreciated, encouraged, and sustained.

In conclusion the Council have pleasure in reporting the silent but satisfactory progress which the cause continues to make. The correspondence of the Union indicates a steady advancement of our principles, and such cases as the election of Mr Bright for Durham, who was well known as a complete suffragist as well as a free trader, shows that the electoral body are at length becoming aroused to a full consciousness of their duty and responsibility in the present eventful crisis of our common country. The present position and prospects of the Durham constituency are full of hope, and the Council rejoice to learn that the friends of the suffrage in Manchester, having re-organised their own complete suffrage union, and placed it on a firm and permanent basis, are now taking measures for turning the election of Durham to a still more practical account. The new movement in Manchester, which in principle and detail is all that the friends of the Union could desire, promises to effect great and lasting good, and the Council hail it as another token of the steady approach of the time when all our great towns will be united as one, and never cease to act until the people be fully, and fairly, and freely represented in the Commons house of parliament.

The report was approved.

The CHAIRMAN said, that although the complete suffrage movement was not making much noise, he was never more convinced of the progress of a public cause, than he was of the one in which they were now engaged. The great difficulty was to get properly qualified complete suffrage candidates. His firm conviction was, that a person holding complete suffrage principles, and well qualified in other respects, would not lose any votes, at an election contest, beyond those of the mere conservative elector. The report which had just been read, showed what the executive council had done during the last three months; and the council intended to

continue to present a similar report at the end of every quarter. The council proposed to meet regularly once a quarter, in the office of the Union, 364, Waterloo street, except when circumstances might suggest meetings during the interval. It was intended that the quarterly meetings should partake as much as possible of a conversational character, and suggestions from various friends would be taken up and discussed.

After some conversation, the meeting adjourned.

MR VINCENT'S PROGRESS IN THE WEST.

HENRY VINCENT IN PLYMOUTH.—On Tuesday evening, August 1, Henry Vincent, the celebrated advocate of complete suffrage, delivered a lecture, in the Theatre royal of this town, Jesse Adams, Esq., in the chair, "On the present alarming state of public affairs." Although the sums of 1s. 6d. and 1s. were charged for admission, the house was crowded by a highly respectable and enthusiastic auditory. The talented lecturer, who was listened to with fixed and delighted attention throughout an address occupying two hours in the delivery, handled his subject in most masterly style, carrying conviction, we feel satisfied, to many a waverer, on the great and vital topics which he brought under review. The enthusiastic plaudits with which the lecturer was repeatedly greeted during the evening must have been to him matter of gratulation, inasmuch as they were an expression of sympathy with the views of politics which he exhibited, and the principles which he propounded. It would be impossible, in a mere outline, to do justice to the discourse of Mr Vincent. His eloquence must be heard and felt to be appreciated. We therefore refrain from giving any "shreds and patches" of his elaborate oratory. We understand Mr Vincent proposes, if proper arrangements can be made, to lecture at Ashburton on Monday and Tuesday next, and at Totnes on Wednesday and Thursday.—*Western Times of Saturday.*

DEVONPORT.—Henry Vincent delivered a powerful and convincing lecture on the great and vital question of Complete Suffrage, at the Public Rooms, Devonport, on Thursday evening, Aug. 3rd, on which occasion a Scotchman presided. The attendance was very numerous. The able lecturer fully developed and expounded the principles of Complete Suffrage. He showed that the enfranchisement of the masses would elevate their moral as well as political condition, remove from their brows the stigma of vassalage and servility—and give them a due and healthful influence in the management of national affairs, an influence which alone could restore the tottering constitution to its equilibrium. At the conclusion of this very excellent lecture, Thomas Woolcombe, Esq., (town clerk,) moved the vote of thanks to Mr Vincent. He stated that he had been more than gratified by the splendid oratorical and logical address they had just listened to. He felt convinced that if sentiments so just were continuously advocated in so able and temperate a manner they must triumph. For his own part he should always feel proud in assisting the working classes to obtain their just rights [loud cheers]. Jesse Adams, Esq., rose to second the vote of thanks. He said, there was a time for all things, and he was now about to make a declaration of his political faith. "Sir," said he, (turning and grasping Mr Vincent by the hand) "you can announce to your friends that if you have made no other convert to your noble principles, you have at least made a convert of me [loud and prolonged cheering]. Here I stand a complete suffragist, and I wish you, Sir, God speed in your glorious work." It is impossible to describe the effect of this scene, to see an old man so overcome with joy and enthusiasm. We rejoice in being enabled to state that the course of lectures delivered by Mr Vincent here and in the adjoining town of Plymouth has excited much earnest inquiry on the grave and vital question of the suffrage, and considerably strengthened the hands of the complete suffrage associations which have been recently established in these towns. Henry Vincent has sown the "good seed" which, we venture to predict, shall bring forth abundant fruit. On Friday next Mr Vincent will give a lecture on "the Harmony of the principles of complete suffrage with the theory of the British constitution," after which he proceeds on his high and noble mission through Cornwall, where we sincerely hope success may crown his meritorious efforts.

MODBURY, DEVON.—On Saturday evening Henry Vincent addressed a large meeting of farmers' labourers and shopkeepers in this agricultural town, on the "suffrage as a remedy for the present alarming state of public affairs." The hustings were erected in front of the Baptist chapel, the windows and doors of which were thrown open to afford accommodation to the ladies who attended in large numbers. On the motion of the Rev. Mr Bussell, Mr Pearce, a respectable farmer, was unanimously called to the chair. He said he took the chair with great pleasure. He was proud to identify himself with the Suffrage Union; and he thought the present state of affairs would bring his brother farmers to their senses, and induce them to contend for honest, cheap, and responsible government. Mr Vincent was received with hearty applause, and addressed the meeting at great length. The audience seemed thoroughly to comprehend the purport of his address; and it was pleasing to observe that they applauded with most energy all reference to the rights of man, and the importance of sobriety and intelligence. When Mr Vincent told the labourers that their ignorance had made them slaves, they cried out, almost simultaneously, "We do know it, sir, we do know it," "but we be getting awake," &c., &c. The meeting was most interesting, and at the conclusion three times three hearty cheers were given for complete suffrage. A

small Complete Suffrage society is in existence, and the principles will continue to excite increased interest in the neighbouring villages.

LEICESTER.—The monthly meeting of the Leicester Complete Suffrage association was held at the Town hall, on Tuesday evening, Mr Manning in the chair. The Chairman reported that the parties desirous of conferring upon united operations in the district had not been yet able to meet, but hope shortly to do so. The committee had adopted the recommendation of the last monthly meeting, with respect to a tea meeting, and had corresponded with Mr Sturge, who had expressed his willingness to be present. They had also written to Mr Crawford, M.P., who stated that he must leave this country for Ireland about the 10th inst, and, therefore, could not attend any meeting after that time. Some conversation ensued between Messrs Harrold, Waterfield, Weston, and the Chairman, and it was resolved that the committee be requested to have the meeting as early, and to make it as popular, as possible. The Chairman congratulated the society upon the victory gained at Durham by Mr Bright, who was a thorough complete suffragist, as well as free trader, and expressed a hope that elections generally might be conducted on the same principles of independence and purity. The Secretary *pro tem.* of West Mary's (Mr D. Bird) stated that the members in that ward had carried out the plan mentioned at a former meeting. They had now a commodious reading room in Newarke street, at which papers friendly to the cause were taken in. Mr BUCKLEY said that they had come to an agreement with the members in East Mary's ward, who had taken part of the responsibility. The Secretary of the association (Mr H. A. Collier) reported that a ward committee and secretary had been elected in Middle St Margaret's, thus completing the organisation of the society. In North St Margaret's the canvass was going on very favourably. In All Saints there had been a slight increase, which would have been very large if the district officers had attended to their duties. In East St Mary's an address had been prepared, with a view to a future canvass. In St Martin's nothing more had been done. The increase of members in the association during the month had been 50, making a total of 670, of whom more than 400 were electors.

MANCHESTER COMPLETE SUFFRAGE UNION.—The council held its fortnightly meeting on July 27th. The Deputy-chairman presided. The report of the sub-committee, appointed to draw up bye-laws, was received and adopted. Committees were appointed for the various wards in the borough, to carry out the objects of the Union. It was resolved that a news and reading room be opened in connexion with the Union, from eight o'clock in the morning to ten in the evening: subscription 1s. per quarter for members, 1s. 3d. for non-members of the Union; that the rooms of the Union be opened every alternate Thursday evening for the delivery of lectures, reading of essays, and discussions on political and social questions; and that ten thousand copies of a small handbill be printed and disseminated, setting forth the objects of the Union, &c. An address was also agreed upon, congratulating the electors of Durham on the return of John Bright as M.P. for that city, which we gave in our last.

TAUNTON COMPLETE SUFFRAGE UNION.—At the general monthly meeting on Wednesday last, which was very numerously and respectably attended, twenty-five new members were elected, among whom were six electors, making in all upwards of two hundred members, including sixty-six electors and one county magistrate. The two following resolutions were unanimously passed, after an animated and interesting discussion:—

"1. That this society views with the greatest satisfaction the conduct of the electors of Durham, in having chosen Mr Bright as their representative in parliament, whereby they have sacrificed corruption at the shrine of principle, an act which reflects on the inhabitants of the cathedral city of Durham the everlasting honour of setting a national example which promises to be productive of great social good; that this society do therefore accord their grateful thanks to those electors and non-electors of Durham who gave Mr Bright their support. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the inhabitants of Durham, through John Henderson, Esq., the proposer of Mr Bright.

"2. That the cordial thanks and congratulations of this association be given to John Bright, Esq., M.P., on his late glorious triumph at Durham, whose talents, character, and honesty, are the sure guarantee of his efficient advocacy of the great principle of 'equality of political rights and privileges,' which this society believes to be the only means by which this country can be rescued from a corrupt system of legislation which must eventually be fatal to its best interests. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to John Bright, Esq., M.P."

WORTHY OF IMITATION.—The opinion is gaining ground amongst the constituency of Bradford, that Sir R. Peel cannot continue long in his present position, and that a general election is not far distant. They are, therefore, looking out for fit and proper persons to be brought forward as candidates whenever an election may occur. With this view a deputation of gentlemen from the Bradford Complete Suffrage association waited upon W. Busfield, Esq., of Upwood, the present liberal member for the borough, to ascertain how far his opinions coincided with theirs. The deputation was most courteously received by the honourable gentleman.—*Leeds Mercury.*—[The result of this interview the *Leeds Mercury* forgets to give; favouring the idea that it was inimical to the parliamentary interests of the whig member.]

THE COURT.—The court left Buckingham palace for Windsor on Thursday afternoon by the Great Western railway; at which great preparations were made for the due reception of the royal party. The Brighton tradesmen have received orders, to be immediately executed at the Pavilion, preparatory to a visit by her Majesty. For some time past extensive exterior repairs have been going on at the palace.

The *Morning Chronicle* says that, before the Queen and Prince Albert departed for Windsor, they presented their portraits, three-quarter lengths, to Viscount Melbourne.

THE KING OF HANOVER.—(From a correspondent.)—The King of Hanover, we understand, intends giving a grand dinner to the principal nobility and gentry, previous to his Majesty leaving this country for his dominions. We have heard that upwards of four hundred cards of invitation have been issued, without any distinction whatever to political parties. The leading families of both whigs and tories have been invited to the dinner. The banquet will be held at St. James's palace.—*Standard*.

Sir Augustus D'Este has, we hear, presented a petition to the Queen, claiming to be entitled to the titles of his father, the late Duke of Sussex.—*Globe*.

The Right Hon. the Speaker of the House of Commons gives his customary dinner to the principal officers of that branch of the legislature on Saturday next, the 12th inst. This annual entertainment of the right hon. gentleman is generally given a week before the prorogation of the session of parliament, so that the House of Commons may be expected to close its sessional duties the week after next.

The royal commissioners of fine arts have issued an invitation to artists to send in specimens of fresco painting for the decoration of the new houses of parliament; for arabesque paintings and heraldic decorations for the enrichment of panels, friezes, &c., in colour and gold; as well as for designs for ornamental metal work for screens, railings, gates, &c.; and lastly, for ornamental pavement.

The *Morning Herald* announces changes in the London university, recently authorised by government:—"At future matriculation examinations, candidates will be approved if they show a competent knowledge in classics, mathematics, and natural philosophy, or chemistry. And at future B.A. examinations, candidates will be approved if they show a competent knowledge in mathematics and natural philosophy, animal physiology, classics, and logic and moral philosophy. It is further stated, that several of the English bishops have expressed their willingness to ordain candidates for holy orders who are graduates of the university of London. It is not perhaps generally known, that by an express act of parliament, 1st Vic., cap. 56, two years in his clerkship to a solicitor are saved by the B.A. or B.L. of this university. And it may now be added, that the benchers of Lincoln's Inn have appointed a committee to consider the subject of placing the degrees of the university of London on the same footing, as relates to admission to the bar, as those of Oxford and Cambridge.

CHURCH EDUCATION.—The national society appears to have abandoned its intention of holding a public meeting on occasion of the defeat of the Factories Education bill. A list of contributions is being privately circulated, which already gives a total of £32,082. Her Majesty subscribes £1,000. The Queen Dowager and Prince Albert, £500 each. The Dukes of Northumberland and Portland, and Sir Robert Peel, £1000 each. The Archbishops of Canterbury and York, the Bishop of London, the Chapter of Durham, the Duke of Buccleuch, the Earl of Harrowby, Lord Francis Egerton, the Hon. Sidney Herbert, Mr Abel Smith, and Mr Holford, £500 each. There are also two contributors of £300 each; nine, of £250 each; twenty-eight, of £200 each; and 115, of £100 each. No doubt is entertained that at least £50,000 will be raised; the total will probably far exceed that sum.—*Record*.

REGISTER! REGISTER! REGISTER!—The overseers' lists for counties and boroughs are now published. All persons having a right to vote for boroughs should carefully examine the lists, and those who do not find their names inserted should immediately send in their claims to the overseers. Persons whose names are found on borough lists, not having the necessary legal qualification, may now be objected to. We again exhort our complete suffrage friends everywhere to be prompt and vigilant in their attention to these matters. There is no time to lose. Remember, the 25th of August is the last day for sending in claims and objections.

A pamphlet has just been published by Mr Hewitt Davis, an experienced land agent and practical farmer, which professes to show that, by means of "thin sowing," a saving of seed might be effected equivalent to the annual importation of foreign wheat for the last fourteen years, ending with the year 1841, which, by computation, he fixes at an annual average of 1,254,733 quarters.

Father Mathew, during his six days' stay in Manchester, administered the pledge to upwards of 80,000 persons; and if he had remained there two or three days longer, there would have been an addition, he believes, of 20,000 persons to that number. In Liverpool the great apostle enlisted about 60,000 in his ranks.

RAILWAYS.—We perceive from the circular of Messrs Bell and Rhodes, for this month, that a proposition to unite the North Midland, Midland Counties, and the Birmingham and Derby railway companies—the shares of the two former to be rated equal

in value, and the latter to receive 25s. less per annum for each £100 share, has been agreed to by the directors of the North Midland, and Birmingham and Derby companies.

THE HARVEST IN EUROPE.—Harvest has commenced in the neighbourhood of Paris.—From the north-eastern parts of Europe the reports respecting the appearance of the crops are of a satisfactory nature; and, notwithstanding the somewhat lively advices from England, no material alteration had up to the 15th ult. taken place in the prices of wheat at any of the leading ports in the Baltic. By the most recent accounts from the South of Europe, the harvest had already been brought to a close in some parts of Italy; and a letter from Naples of the 7th July states that several parcels of the new crop had appeared at market, of very excellent quality, for which 38s. per qr, free on board, had been asked.

Postscript.

Wednesday, August 9th, 1843.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

CUSTOM HOUSE FRAUDS.—Mr Hume last night recurred to the frauds in the customs, which he believed had been to the extent of millions per annum. The fault lay in the improper selection of commissioners, who, instead of being chosen from a class of persons acquainted with the business and capable of duly superintending it, were appointed merely from interest. He called for the evidence lately taken upon this subject, contending that the Chancellor of the Exchequer ought to have suspended the whole board, and that the danger of an interference with the course of justice, which had been urged as an objection, was a trifle in comparison with the object to be attained by the production of this testimony. He concluded by moving an address to the Crown for the production of the evidence appended to the report. Mr Forster seconded the motion. Mr Goulburn agreed that publication, when the proper time for it should come, would do great good; but to publish now would be to defeat the prosecution. Sir G. Clerk said the evidence would be published next session. Mr T. Duncombe asked why not now? He recommended a reduction from nine commissioners to three; and declared his belief that government kept up the whole establishment for purposes of patronage. Mr Hume finally withdrew his motion. Mr T. Duncombe afterwards moved for the public entry of the orders in minute-books to be kept in the Long room, and for the printing and publication, on the first day in each month, of all new orders made in the month preceding. Mr Goulburn assented to the first part of the motion, but resisted the second, which, on a division, was rejected. The House was shortly after counted out.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

PROCESSIONS IN IRELAND.—The Earl of Roden last night raised a discussion on the state of Ireland, on the occasion of the presentation of a petition. The noble earl complained of the injury which the existing agitation was causing to the material interests of Ireland, paralysing business and obstructing the flow of capital towards that country. The petitioners, whose case he represented, urged the hardship of compelling the Orangemen to observe the law with respect to processions, while the Repeal associations were allowed to assemble as they pleased. The Duke of Wellington confessed, that the evils and inconveniences attending the present state of Ireland had been by no means exaggerated; but after paying a compliment upon their loyal forbearance to the Orangemen of the north, proceeded to explain, that the act, the operation of which they were called upon to extend, had reference only to meetings or processions in commemoration of anniversaries to which either a religious or political character was attached, and could not consequently be held to include those at which the repeal of the union was discussed. It might be asked "Why not then extend its provisions?" but, although admitting the evils which the present criminal agitation had inflicted, and most anxious to put an end to them—aware, too, of the responsibility of government for its omissions as well as its acts—he did not think it desirable to state what were its intentions further than to explain that in his own department everything that could be done had been done to enable it "to preserve the peace of the country, and to meet all misfortunes and consequences which may result from the violence of the passions of those men who unfortunately guided the multitude in Ireland." He disputed neither the extent of the conspiracy, the dangers to be expected from it, nor the assistance it had derived from foreigners; but he felt confident that from the measures adopted, the government would be able to resist every attempt against the public peace, and he believed it better, therefore, to persevere in its present course, and to employ no other precautions until they should become absolutely necessary.

The Marquis of Clanricarde, the Earl of Winchilsea, the Earl of Wicklow, the Earl of Glengall, and Lord Brougham took part in the debate, the latter noble lord doing his usual professional business on behalf of the government. The discussion then closed.

SPAIN.—It was reported, and generally believed at Paris, on Monday, that the French government received on Sunday a telegraphic despatch, announcing that Generals Van Halen and Osorio had been captured by General Concha.

It was also said at Madrid, that the ministry, in order to extricate themselves from present difficulties, intended shortly to declare the Queen of age. Meanwhile, the new government continue their arbitrary proceedings, in direct contravention of the Spanish constitution. The *Gazette* publishes the decree convoking the general cortes of the kingdom for the 15th of October next, and directing that the senate be integrally renewed (contrary to the express letter of the constitution). Another decree, inserted in the *Gazette*, and deemed equally unconstitutional, dissolved the provincial deputation of Madrid, and appointed other deputies to replace those whose services were dispensed with. Messrs. Olozaga and Silveira, had been named judges of the supreme tribunal of justice.

PORTUGAL.—The *Times* correspondent says, "I can now announce with confidence that a satisfactory tariff convention will be concluded between England and Portugal within a few weeks. This is a bold announcement, but I unhesitatingly predict this result, and stake my reputation upon it. Many wiseacres will shrug their shoulders, and exclaim—'Incredible!' But stranger things have come to pass. I am not at liberty to disclose all the grounds which have led me to this conviction; but unsafe as it always is to prognosticate results in any affair of which the scene is the Peninsula, I make this prediction with the most perfect confidence."

ANOTHER "MONSTER" REPEAL MEETING.—At Ballinglass on Sunday a repeal demonstration took place for the county of Wicklow. The *Freeman's Journal* thus describes it:—"Mr O'Connell left the residence of Mr Dromgoole, of Ballymore Eustace, where he had been on a visit since the previous day, at an early hour in the morning, and drove rapidly along until the crowded roads became so densely thronged, that it was impossible to proceed but at the easiest pace. Temperance bands from Ballymore, Athy, Naas and Newbridge, Rathvilly, and from our own liberties, were contributing to the enjoyment of the people. More than a thousand horsemen added a military dignity to the myriads on foot; while ears and other vehicles were crowded with females. On entering the town Mr O'Connell proceeded to the residence of the Rev. Mr Lalor, the excellent parish priest, where he remained until the assemblage was collected in the place of meeting, Roche's field, where a commodious platform had been erected for the committee and other gentlemen. About two o'clock the honourable and learned gentleman again appeared, and his recognition by the multitude was the signal for the most enthusiastic cheering. At this period there were present in the neighbourhood of the place of meeting, as well as in the town, one hundred and fifty thousand people. These had collected from the five or six adjoining counties, and a more cheerful, fine, and manly peasantry the eye could not love to dwell on."

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—At this meeting letters were read from various parties, referring to rumours that it was the intention of government to suppress the forthcoming demonstration on the hill of Para on the 15th instant. This is to be the crowning meeting of all. The whole of the dismissed magistrates are to be invited to a grand banquet at Trim, and the assembled multitude are to be regaled with dinner, and sheep, bullocks, and swine are to die by scores for the occasion. Mr O'Connell said he wished it to be known that he had not yet digested his plan for the formation of the Preservative society. He had only suggested an outline of it for public consideration, and with the view of having it worked out consistently with the law, which he would take care not to violate. But the precise plan must depend on the circumstances existing at the period of its formation, and until then he would not be bound by any particular regulations. He wanted a Protective society of 300 gentlemen, each bringing £100 as a test of his sincerity, or that of his neighbours. He could only pledge himself that before the end of the year one step more would be taken towards repeal [cheers].

SOUTH WALES.—The copper miners have not yet returned to work. On Saturday they gave notice to the savings' bank to withdraw upwards of £700 of the money which they have placed there; and the state of things may be fully known by the fact of less than £90 being paid in, which is infinitely below the usual average. The whole of the men at the various copper works upon the Swansea river are now on strike; and the great evil is, that the colliers who would wish to work are thrown out also by the stoppage of the copper works. The men were walking about the town (Swansea) all day Monday in considerable numbers, but were very orderly; and it is understood that they intend to hold a large meeting on the Crwmyllyn Boroughs, about two miles from Swansea, at which it was said that the Neath and Cwm Avon men were expected to join them. The *Times* correspondent further says—

In this county also (Glamorganshire), as in Carmarthenshire, I find that the farmers are very poor; and I have learnt from the most authentic sources that in the neighbourhood of Swansea there are hundreds—nay, thousands, of farmers and their servants who are so little above the verge of absolute poverty, that from year's end to year's end they never taste any but coarse barley bread, and that they never have fresh meat at their tables beyond once or twice in the year, and that at the period of harvest time. Nothing can relieve this state of agricultural difficulty but a reduction in the rents of farms, and the landowners ought really immediately to reduce them.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.
The supply of English wheat is 3540 quarters; of foreign, 2670. Nothing doing in the wheat trade.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Vindex" declined with thanks. It is better not to insert his letter, lest "our turn should come."

"J. H." declined.

"R. S." His suggestion will, we hope, before long be carried out, though not precisely in the manner mentioned by him.

"A Constant Reader," and "A Noncon." under consideration.

"C. D." The second half-year's income tax was due last Lady-day. We know of no law on the other subject to which he refers.

"W. B. I." next week.

"J. O." Newcastle. Too late for insertion.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, AUG. 9, 1843.

SUMMARY.

WHY should we complain of the present parliament? They are our ablest and most efficient co-adjudicators in both those movements, the furtherance of which engages so large a share of our attention, and the ultimate success of which constitutes the goal whither our strongest and fleetest desires speed their course? We might have laboured in our vocation a long ten years without producing upon the dissenting body any greater effect than an occasional start—a start such as slumberers sometimes exhibit, when a light feather is drawn across the nostrils. The House of Commons has done our work without intending it. They meant to pin down the sleeper, as the Lilliputians did poor Gulliver; but they did their work clumsily; and to the discomfiture and horror of all parties, they managed to wake him up instead, which having done, the whigs looked as sheepish as men do when unexpectedly found out in playing tricks; and the tories, after putting as bold a face as possible upon the matter, at length brushed off, leaving behind them their cunning instruments of restriction, together with an active instead of a sleeping foe. Since then, both parties have made increasing and not unsuccessful efforts to bring themselves into contempt. They have conducted themselves with an unseemliness most satisfactory to those who desire to see a thorough change in the system of representation. They are converting thousands to the complete suffrage movement. Their nightly feats are blowing away hosts of prejudices, and adding to whatever arguments we employ, a weight which none else could. Another session like the present will render all our efforts for reform superfluous.

The debate on Mr Ward's motion touching the Irish church, like many others held since the opening of the session, will do but little to recover the lost character of the House. The speech of the honourable member for Sheffield, it is true, was able and uncompromising. He laid bare the festering sore which inflames seven-eighths of the population of Ireland. He proved against the established church in that country every count in the indictment laid against it; and those counts were numerous and aggravated in character. He convicted it of inefficiency for all spiritual purposes—he brought home to it the charge of injustice—he set forth its rapacity in darkest colours, and proposed a total abrogation of it, as a nuisance. Thus far we agree with him. The remedy, however, which he suggested, was just what might have been looked for from that political school to which Mr Ward belongs. He would vest the whole ecclesiastical property in Ireland in the hands of commissioners, and, doing away with the cumbrous machinery of archbishops and bishops, would divide the amount amongst the several religious sects, according to the numbers of professed members which each might show. To this plan we have adverted in another place. The discussion which followed was eminently characteristic. Lord Eliot replied to Mr Ward in a strain which harmonised the grossest assumptions with the feeblest of arguments. His defence of the Irish establishment was found, not in the records of Christianity, nor in the laws of justice, nor even among the dictates of political expediency, but in the Act of Union. If Mr O'Connell does not avail himself of this strong argument for repeal, put into his mouth by the Irish Secretary, he will be less prompt in turning against his opponents the weapons which themselves have forged, than is his wont.

The debate was adjourned, and re-opened on Wednesday evening by Mr Trelawney, in an anti-establishment speech which gives promise of better things than was anticipated from the member for Tavistock. Wanting in the tact which distinguished the oration of Mr Ward, it nevertheless went far deeper into the question—and if somewhat too collegiate in its cast, it rested upon the basis of sounder principles and more irrefragable arguments. But the honourable member threw into its close, a piece of whiggery which tainted the whole, leaving us to regret that a young man who has within him so much which is estimable, should have suffered himself to be sucked into that vortex in which all truthful principles soon disappear—namely, Russellism. Sir Robert Inglis dealt with the matter in his usual style, confounded money

with piety, and identified the Christian church with benefices and episcopal revenues. His air, on all ecclesiastical subjects, is an amusing mixture of stupidity and infallibility. To reason, is beyond his province. It is doubtful whether he ever saw a logical connection between one subject and another. In his youth he picked up some notions which he holds as constituting the sum total of truth. These he invariably displays in the same light, and pretty nearly in the same words; and should an antagonist accept any one of them, and proceed therefrom to deduce an inference, the member for Oxford instantly denies his right to do so, and asserts that the premises are valid only for his own conclusions. He is a most appropriate specimen of the university he represents—a crystallisation of egotism—a stereotyped, black-letter, I. The debate was carried on somewhat languidly by two or three other members, when—lo! the House was counted out. Well! who does the reader imagine to have been there at this inglorious termination of a discussion commenced with so much pomp? Mr Ward, of course. No! the parent of the debate having laid his egg in the sand, left it to be hatched by the sun, and as the weather was not propitious the egg was addled. Sir Robert Peel, Sir James Graham, Lord Stanley, Lord John Russell, Lord Palmerston—all the leading men of both political parties were away. It was a mere tadpole debate—a thing with an immense head, and a small tapering tail—a thing which evinced, in a few lively wriggles, symptoms of life, but which melted away before it arrived to any maturity of being.

"Yet once,
Methinks, it did address itself to speak,
But, even then, the morning cock crew loud,
And at the sound it slunk in haste away,
And vanish'd from my sight."

A short conversation took place on Thursday evening, on the manner in which the debate had been prematurely closed, from which it appeared that several leading members of the whig party, who had promised Mr Ward their support, had kept themselves out of the way, so that, as the honourable member most delicately described it, the House was counted out owing to "a want of combination on the opposition side; for many of his honourable friends who intended to speak on the subject were not in their places." A want of combination! We wonder how Mr Ward should hope to blind the public by the use of such terms. It was not a *want* of combination among his political friends which led to the event. There was evidently a thorough understanding amongst them, but it happened to be that they should absent themselves from the house, *in order to its being counted out*. Mr Roche, who remained, with the exception of a few minutes, during the whole of the discussion, stated that, "although the members of the government attended in their places, the leaders of the whig party were *all* absent." What a curious accident! How plain it is that the whigs, who have made the Irish church their "pet question," were unfortunately defeated, in this instance, through "want of combination."

On Friday evening, after a short conversation, introduced by Mr Duncombe, upon an improper interference, by the magistrates and police at Hull, with the right of public meeting, and which, short as it was, sufficed our Home Secretary to blunder out another of his new constitutional *dicta*, that the people cannot meet in legal assembly after dark; the House went into a committee of supply, and Sir G. Clerk on the part of government moved the grant "of £1,281,211 to certain individuals, the holders of opium surrendered to the Chinese by her Majesty's government in 1839, as compensation due to them, under the fourth article of the treaty." This sum, the said holders, speaking through Mr Mangles and Sir Thomas Wilde, declared to be far below the invoice price of the article, and therefore demanded a committee of inquiry, which the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Sir Robert Peel resisted, and, as a matter of course, successfully. It is not for us to decide whether the claimants or the government had the worse case—but that between them the Chinese have been robbed to the amount of 6,000,000 dollars, and that, if these contraband traders could have gained their point, the people of this country would have been swindled too, must be pretty clear to every one who reads the discussion with an unprejudiced mind.

On Monday the House assembled at noon, when the Irish Poor Law Amendment bill passed through committee. At the evening sitting, the subject of free trade was introduced for the last time, in a motion by Mr Ewart, referring to the import duties committee of 1840. The only novel feature in the debate—if debate it might be called—was the maiden speech of the new member for Durham. Notwithstanding every disadvantage, arising from a meagre attendance, and the listlessness and impatience on the part of members present, Mr Bright made an effective, if not a brilliant, speech. He exposed our present system of legislation with great truthfulness and effect; and we have little doubt that he will prove one of the most formidable opponents, in the house of Commons, with which the aristocracy have yet had to deal.

Beyond the walls of parliament, public affairs do

not mend. We can scarcely congratulate our readers upon any one topic but the success of Father Mathew in his temperance mission to the metropolis. Whatever may be thought of the total abstinence principle, we cannot but wish that our own labouring classes may undergo that great social revolution which has done so much to elevate the millions of Ireland. Political reforms, to the fullest extent which patriotism demands, would be easily and triumphantly effected by a universally sober population. Assuredly, working men in this country need nothing which can add to their excitement. Inflammation is likely, ere long, to run high enough without the additional stimulus of strong drink. The colliers around Manchester are organising, and threaten another "strike." Welsh disturbances continue unchecked, notwithstanding the presence of a strong military force. A chest of arms has been seized—and, if the special correspondent of the London *Times* may be relied upon, the farmers in South Wales have formed a union, and are about to commence an agitation for, amongst other things, *a reduction of rents*. The example is not unlikely to prove contagious. Ireland may next catch the infection, and, possibly, the tenant farmers even in England may become sick of the same disease. To return, however, from probabilities to facts. The workmen in the copper mines of South Wales have struck for increased wages. In Staffordshire, there is no prospect of improvement—the iron districts have not yet felt the worst of the depression in store for them. Meanwhile, the weather, until yesterday, generally unpropitious, threatens a late harvest—speculators are working up the averages, and probably, just as the farmer is in condition to bring new wheat into the market, a large importation of foreign corn will take place—prices will again drop—and hundreds of tenants will silently sink into insolvency. A pretty cluster of grapes to gather from class rule!

In Ireland, repeal demonstrations come off, and repeal rents pour in. The treasury minute, ordering the dismissal of all holders of public offices, who are known to have subscribed to the funds of the "association," will add fuel to the extending flame. It is now plain that the movement will beat the tories, and it is daily getting beyond the practicability of management by the whigs. Whereto it will grow is a matter to us of wondering conjecture. It cannot end in smoke; and the collision with the police near Galway indicates that it may terminate in scenes which all right-minded men would deeply deplore.

Ayrshire has returned a tory representative without opposition, the friends of complete suffrage in the south-west district of Scotland not being sufficiently organised to give effect to their good intentions. We devoutly trust the lesson will not be thrown away upon them. Under any circumstances, they could not have hoped to win the present election. If, therefore, it shall have the effect of teaching them, and others, the necessity of instant, systematic, and persevering preparation for the next electoral conflict, it will have answered its purpose. It would be no mean triumph to win the land of Burns.

Esparrero, whom we must now designate the ex-regent of Spain, has raised the siege of Seville, which ancient city he had severely bombarded, and is now on his way to England, having embarked at Cadiz, in an English man-of-war. The successful party are already quarreling. Christina, it is expected, will forthwith set out for Madrid. Unhappy Spain! Rent asunder by furious factions, she can enjoy no interval of repose. She is now the prey of military grandes, in whose ambitious projects, aided by foreign intrigue, she has not the shadow of an interest.

In another column will be found the report of the council of the National Complete Suffrage Union for the last quarter, and we commend it to the careful perusal of the friends of the cause. The pleasing indications it exhibits of the sure and rapid progress of the principles of complete suffrage among the middle classes, proves how much may be done even by a few well-directed efforts in the right direction. We trust the friends of complete suffrage will bestir themselves during the recess. It is quite possible, and indeed probable, that a general election will take place before the expiration of another year, and all will depend upon the right use of the intervening time. Without further dwelling on the subject, we would invite the serious attention of the friends of the movement to the excellent practical suggestions, on this subject, submitted by the Council of the Union.

A BITE.—Alfonso Bombardi, a celebrated sculptor of the Emperor Charles V., was a great coxcomb. He got punished one day by a young lady at Bologna, to whom he took it into his head to make love in a foppish manner. She was his partner at a ball, in the midst of which he turned to her, and heaving a profound sigh, as he looked in her face with what he thought an ineffable softness in his eyes, and we suppose with some fantastic writhing gesture, "If 'tis not love I feel, pray what is it?" "Perhaps," said the young lady, "something bites you." This story got abroad, and Alfonso became the jest of the city.

"BE JUST, AND FEAR NOT."

ANOTHER parliamentary session is about to be added to the catalogue of things that were. We have got to the last page of another chapter in the annals of Great Britain. It has proved a tedious one, but is not without its moral. There is one class of persons in this country, and that by no means an insignificant one, who may gather up practical instruction from these otherwise unmeaning records of the past. All that the House of Commons has done—all that it has attempted, but failed to do—all that it has purposely left undone—whispers in the ears of the watching and attentive members of the class referred to, the language of earnest ex-postulation.

It is well known to every active advocate of the cause of the unrepresented, that encircling every complete suffrage association there is a broad belt of society, formed of electors who occupy what is commonly designated a respectable position, and who, recognising the equal right of all men to the franchise, deem it unsafe to extend it at once to the furthestmost limits which strict justice might prescribe. They profess to defer to the force of argument which establishes for the labouring classes a title to political emancipation. They concede that no man can produce a sufficient reason for his own admission to the rights of citizenship, which may not, with equal validity, be proffered by any other. In a word, they both comprehend and appreciate the morality of the question. The change sought, however, is so sweeping in character—the perils which would accompany and succeed it, are, to their apprehension, so numerous and so formidable, that hitherto they have questioned the expediency of venturing upon so serious an experiment, and, in consequence, have declined taking part, by any overt act, in the agitation at present rife upon this subject. To this class of individuals we beg respectfully to submit a few observations.

It is not our immediate purpose to set before them the practical dishonesty (we employ the term in no offensive sense) of the position they deliberately take up, and perseveringly maintain. A slight effort at reflection might suffice to convince them that, with their views of the equal rights of all men to the franchise, the question is not whether expediency will justify them in giving, but whether morality will sanction them in withholding, what is sought at their hands by their unrepresented fellow countrymen. They who are denied the franchise constitute a party robbed of somewhat admitted to belong to them. They who possess it, hold, if we may so speak, the proceeds of that robbery. It is not competent for these last to consult their own convenience in giving up to those first what cannot righteously be withheld from them. It is not for them to weigh probabilities—to cast horoscopes of dangers to be apprehended, and to say to those denuded of unquestionable rights, "I allow that what you ask from me is yours *de jure*: and, when I deem it safe, I will do my part towards making it yours *de facto*." No man is at liberty to assume to himself the power of judging as to the most fitting opportunity of restoring to its owner what that owner never consented to give up, and what now he demands with urgent solicitation. Justice allows of no questions as to sooner or later—more or less. It is absolute—uncompromising—imperative. "Give back that which is your neighbour's property. Give it without reserve. Give it without delay." In this court—the court of conscience—special pleading is forbidden. Over the judgment seat is inscribed the exhortation, "*Fiat justitia, ruat cælum.*" "Be just, and fear not."

Our object, however, at this time, is rather to urge upon the class alluded to, those considerations which the present aspect of affairs is calculated to suggest. We request them to recall the history of the existing parliament—and parallel with that history to place a cursory memoir of the events which have occurred "out of doors." Is it not a fact, that the House of Commons and the country at large are completely at variance—that the stream of legislation has flowed in one direction, whilst the real wants of the people, and their openly expressed wishes, have run in another and an opposite one? When Sir Robert Peel took office, the nation was already sinking in exhaustion under its burdens—those burdens our professed representatives instantly and largely increased. Industry, crippled by commercial restrictions, was threatened with a loss of foreign markets—the restrictions were maintained and the markets are now closed. Whilst discontent has been increasing, and has, here and there, burst forth into lawless disturbances, parliament has become more and more reckless. Millions require bread, and obtain nothing but more barracks. This whole empire is rapidly becoming one vast garrison, the population of which may be divided into two classes—soldiers and slaves—the consumers and the consumed. The means of living are growing more scanty—the population who demand to be allowed to live, more numerous—whilst every local and general impost increases frightfully in amount. In the midst of all this—whilst ruin stares the country in the face—the House of Com-

mons has squandered away another session in doing nothing—absolutely nothing.

It were well for those who have ought to lose, to mark well the elements of anarchy and rapine which our present aristocratic system is evoking from the deep places of society. Because the storm has not yet burst, and the mutterings of it, which are audible, show it to be yet distant, incredulity and presumption are apt to take the place which ought rather to be assigned to wisdom and precaution. They who cling to things as they are, in preference to the change which complete suffrage would work out, from a fear of unsettling, from their foundation, the rights of property, would do wisely to ask themselves whether property can now be regarded as secure. Ask the ironmasters of Staffordshire, of South Wales, and of North Britain, whither their property has been transferred! Consult the woollen manufacturers in the west and north of England as to their notions of the stability, under patrician misgovernment, of vested interests! Why, we hesitate not to hazard a conjecture that, wide as would be the suffering resulting from the instant cancel of the national debt, it would not produce results more fearful, more deplorable, more heart-rending, than does the pertinacious selfishness of our present House of Commons. We believe that during the past year more lives have been sacrificed owing to insufficiency of subsistence, and more property destroyed by a maintenance of commercial restrictions, than in any insurrectionary movement which this country has ever witnessed.

It is impossible, moreover, to glance at the signs of the times, without seeing indications that collision between the easy and the uneasy classes is all but unavoidable. If, in Ireland, the heated passions of an oppressed people are yet under the control of Daniel O'Connell, civil tranquillity, held on so frail a tenure, must be admitted to be insecure. What if England should require, during the recess, the presence of fresh troops? What if the miners, who are openly combining in one great league, should carry their threats into effect, and cease from labour? What if, instead of, by unlawful means, pulling plugs from boilers, to force a general strike, the same end should be arrived at by stopping the supply of fuel? Let it be known that desperate remedies like these are now openly canvassed, and that every present likelihood points to their application. But should another strike occur, similar to that which troubled our repose last autumn, who can predict the upshot? Increased misery has not, we fear, improved the forbearance of the popular temper. The labouring classes, whose respect for property, during the last general outbreak, was so remarkable as to extort admiration even from their oppressors, have been since plied with no additional motives to behave themselves peaceably. Nothing has been done for them—nothing proposed, unless it were the Factories bill, the drift of which they were acute enough to see. Their condition has not been inquired into. Their prayers have gone unheeded. *They are not cared for by their rulers, and they know it.*

Now we put it, in all seriousness, to the class above described, whether expediency, to say nothing of justice, prescribes a continuance of the present system of class rule, and whether the evils directly flowing from that system do not threaten to outweigh those which timidity may anticipate from the concession of political equality to the masses? Has the now expiring session of parliament brightened or bedimmed their hopes of amelioration under an oligarchical sway? Are public affairs wending towards improvement, or drifting down to ruin? Will our middle classes wait the issue of another session? Have they any remaining confidence in the prudence of our representative body? Will they overlook the military preparations which government is pressing forward in our manufacturing districts? Do those preparations augur a disposition to yield monopoly to the clamours of the hungry, or betoken a resolution to do justice to the oppressed? Why should we deceive ourselves? Pliable as may be the Premier, he is but a puppet in the hands of the aristocracy. It is as baseless a fancy as ever floated across the mind of a day-dreamer to imagine that Sir Robert Peel is master of their fate, when daily evidence proves that they are masters of his. He gained their consent to surrender a show of commercial reform with a view to save the substance of monopoly. That monopoly he neither can nor will subvert. The time, then, for decision has arrived. It is passing—and once past, it cannot be recalled. We conclude in the language of the *Philanthropist*, a recently-established monthly periodical, whose spirited co-operation we hail with heart-felt satisfaction:—

"We earnestly request the attention of the middle and the higher classes of society; we tremble for them—the movement begun they have not the power to stop. If they identify themselves with the people, seek common objects, and have a common cause with them, all yet will be well; but if they will not do this, we can see nothing for them but a dark and dreary future; our horoscope is dismal in the extreme. We pray them to ponder well the prospects of society, to lay these things seriously to heart, to judge for themselves what are the requirements

of truth and duty; above all things, we wish the welfare of our country, and this can only be obtained by giving to every man his rights. We are not destructives; we are not eager to import politics from America or France; with all her faults we love England still, and we trust that here may be a glorious career till time shall be no more.

"Never be it ours
To see the sun, how brightly it will shine,
And know that noble feelings, manly powers,
Instead of gathering strength, must droop and pine,
And earth, with all her pleasant fruits and flowers,
Fade, and participate in man's decline."

MR WARD'S PLAN FOR PACIFYING IRELAND.

THE inglorious result of Mr Ward's motion on the Irish church need not prevent us from offering a remark or two upon the plan he submitted to the country for recovering the lost affection of the people of Ireland. Although his recommendations appeared to find little favour with either of the political parties into which our rulers class themselves, it is not by any means certain that they will not ere long be adopted by that section of them who are calculating upon a not distant succession to office. The late rather rapid advance of the whigs in what are called "liberal views" in regard to Irish affairs—the recollection that they once stood in precisely the same relation to the appropriation clause, and to Mr Ward who broached it, as they now do to his new project of ecclesiastical reform—the certainty which looks us in the face, that Irish exigencies will speedily overbear the squeamishness of statesmen, and force for men whose polar-star is expediency, a pathway to power—induce us to set light by the coyness displayed by the whigs in the recent discussion, and to anticipate the probable attempt, next session, to re-organise the opposition upon the basis already cleared for them by the honourable member for Sheffield. We shall not, therefore, regard the time misspent, which is devoted to an examination of the subject under review.

The plan of Mr Ward is thoroughly continental. It is framed upon the model of French centralisation. It has about it an air of liberality, and even kindness, whilst its spirit is despotism, and all its tendencies are to irreligion. Our readers will give us credit for a sufficiently strong dislike of our present system of religious establishments. Not once only, but repeatedly, we have pointed out its natural adaptation to serve as an engine of oppression. But that system is not by any means the worst which might have been devised. If it holds out to the clergy of one denomination strong temptations to side with power against weakness, and to uphold the most extravagant claims of the few who *have*, rather than countenance the rights of the many who *have not*; it places them, at all events, in a position of comparative independence, and leaves them free to act as their obvious interest or their wakened consciences may prescribe, without being amenable to central state authority—and the ministers of all other denominations it leaves almost without inducement to array themselves against the people. Mr Ward would get rid of all the incidental good attaching to this system, and would tenfold multiply the evil. He would break up the parochial arrangement, and adopt in lieu of it a congregational one. He would vest the whole ecclesiastical property of Ireland in a board of commissioners, and would constitute that board the direct paymaster, not of the ministers of one religious sect only, but of all. He would thus, under guise of liberal statesmanship, gather up into the hands of government the whole influence exerted upon society by the teachers of Christianity; and by making them, one and all, directly dependent upon, and responsible to, the state, he would ally with aristocracy one of the most formidable and wide-spread agencies which this or any other country can produce.

We beg to ask Mr Ward, whence springs the necessity for building up with one hand what he so zealously pulls down with the other? What danger either to rational liberty or to good government in Ireland, can arise from leaving religion to the voluntary principle? The vast majority of the population in that country have tried and proved its efficacy, even to support what Mr Ward would deem an erroneous faith? They do not ask endowments for their clergy. The priesthood formally repudiate state pay. Why force it upon them? What one beneficial result can be gained by such a measure, but the creation of a large and organised body of government officials? This may be very well for the state, if by the state we are to understand the ruling few—but of what advantage would it be to the people? The evil now complained of is the ascendancy of a minor sect, and its unjust appropriation to itself of national funds. Why not put protestantism in Ireland upon a footing of equality with Roman catholicism, not by raising the latter to state pay which it does not demand, but by withholding it from the former, and leaving Christianity to its own energies? Mr Ward surely will not pretend a fear lest Christianity, unsupported by the government, would perish. That form of it which is exhibited by the Roman church, already lives, prospers, and extends, not only without the aid, but in spite of the efforts, of

statesmen. Has protestantism less inherent vitality than popery? If so, why endow it? If not, why not leave it to its own resources? Not a single reason did Mr Ward produce for re-constructing the edifice which he had taken such pains to pull down.

The political school of which Mr Ward is a member, have, probably, without intending it, made more fearful encroachments upon popular liberty, by patronising the centralisation, in the hands of government, of all the great influences which modify the national mind, than were effected by toryism for a previous half century. The whigs and the political economists seem to cherish a rooted distrust of all spontaneous moral agencies. Adopting as an axiom that the end of government is "the greatest happiness of the greatest number," than which there cannot be a more specious nor a more mischievous error, they are aiming to get every power which can exert a beneficial influence upon society, into the exclusive keeping and under the sole management of the state. Should they succeed, which we are happy to believe they will not, they will have the masses thoroughly under control. Moral and political despotism will be as complete in this country as it now is in Prussia. The schoolmaster and the religious teacher will be linked by ties of interest to the governing power—the science of oppression will have advanced towards perfection—and, under the name of free men, the people, body and soul, will become the most hopeless of slaves.

General News.

FOREIGN.

SPAIN.

The revolution in this country is to all appearance finally consummated. Despatches were received by the French government on Saturday, announcing the embarkation of Espartero on board the English ship of war the Malabar, which was stationed at Port St Mary's to receive him, on the 30th, at four o'clock in the evening. General Concha had pursued him with 500 cavalry to St Mary's. The Spanish frigate the Constitution, and several other vessels of war, blockaded Cadiz. The French man-of-war La Ville de Marseille and another were also in the roads.

The last act of the Regent—the bombardment of Seville—has excited against him the indignation of all parties. One whole suburb of the city was destroyed, and much damage sustained. The siege lasted twenty days, and the inhabitants resolutely defended the city throughout. On the 26th the siege was raised, and Espartero retreated towards Cadiz. It is supposed that the Regent was ignorant of the course of events at Madrid, or he would never have bombarded Seville.

By a decree of the government of the 30th ult., the Cortes are convoked for the 15th of October. The senate is to be entirely renewed. The election of the members of both houses is to take place on the 15th of September. The provincial deputation of Madrid has been dissolved, and replaced by provisional appointments. The suppressed tolls at the gates of the cities and towns have been re-established, as well as the provincial contributions, Narvaez and his friends contemplated originally to recall the Cortes dissolved by Espartero, but the ex-Queen Regent and her council, as well as his Majesty the King of the French, totally disapproved of such a measure, and hence the decrees for convoking a new Cortes. The ex-Queen Regent is very much displeased with Narvaez, who will not retain office an hour after he can be safely dispensed with.

Very serious differences have exhibited themselves between the Generals Narvaez and Serrano, and it required all the prudence and spirit of conciliation of the Duke de Baylen and General O'Donnell to restore concord between them. Mendizabal and Zurbano still remained in concealment. It is affirmed that the Duchess of Victoria had quitted Buena Vista for the purpose of remaining with one of her relations. The ministers of the United States and of Mexico had recognised the authority of the military government at Madrid *de facto*. The *Journal des Débats* states that "the household of the Queen of Spain has been completely changed. Besides the appointment of the Duke of Baylen as provisional guardian, and the Duke of Saragossa as captain of her guards, Madame Blake, the widow of the general of that name, of Irish origin, has succeeded Madame Mina." As to the general aspect of affairs, we avail ourselves of the following account, furnished by the Paris correspondent of the *Times*:

"You will have received, by the express I forwarded last night, the telegraph despatch, published in the ministerial evening papers. Upon that very brief despatch there appears little to be said. Espartero was evidently driven, at the point of the sword, to seek protection where alone he could rely upon it—namely, on board a British ship of war, ordered there, I am assured, expressly for that identical purpose. He is said to be accompanied by Linage and Van Halen, and is said, further, to be determined on proceeding to Cuba, but only as a private individual. It is not likely that he will have abdicated; but whether he has or not is a matter of no consequence. The revolution may thus be deemed complete."

"There remain, however, in Spain some matters of grave importance to occupy the world. I mentioned, in my letter of yesterday, that the ex-Queen Regent was as furious as a woman so lovely can permit herself to be, against Narvaez; whose mission, she said, 'was purely military, and yet he would reinstate or reintegrate in their functions, the Cortes, dissolved by Espartero, and place and continue in office the Moderados.'

"You are aware that this error has been repaired; but the cause of her Majesty's displeasure may not have struck you.

The dissolved Cortes were, it is true, eminently anti-Espartan; but in the whole chamber of Deputies (who are 242 in number) there were only ten partisans of Queen Christina. Here is the secret of her Majesty's wrath. The new Chamber will contain an overwhelming majority of her friends, and by them will be approved the proposition to marry Queen Isabella II. to the Duke d'Aumale.

"To return to Espartero. A vessel of war has been despatched from Santander to the Havannah with despatches from the new ministers, advising the governor (General Valdez) of the deposition of Espartero, and ordering him (it is rumoured) not to receive the fugitive Regent.

"All will probably be quiet until the Cortes assemble (15th of October). The juntas of the great revolted cities (Barcelona, Malaga, Valencia, Granada, Burgos, Seville, Valladolid, &c.) may occasion some trouble in the interim, for several of them have already protested against the appointment to command or office of Moderados; but they will be pacified, and the present ministry will hold together until the Cortes meet; principally because it would be almost impossible to replace them, and because there exists, in fact, no power or authority into whose hands they could deliver their various trusts."

Meanwhile, Barcelona showed no disposition to acknowledge the authority of the Lopez government, and the arbitrary conduct of the latter, as well as the dissatisfaction of the soldiers, would, it was feared, again involve the country in anarchy.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

THE MORMONS IN AMERICA.—The *St Louis Republican*, of the 31st ult., has the following:—"Great excitement at Nauvoo! Arrest of Joe Smith, the Mormon prophet. News was brought last evening by the steamer Osprey, that Joe Smith, the Mormon prophet, has been arrested and placed in gaol at Ottawa; and further, that when the intelligence reached Nauvoo, 200 horsemen of the legion started immediately for Ottawa, with the intention of liberating him. The steam boat Iowa has also been chartered at Nauvoo by the Mormons, and is at present ascending Illinois river with 150 armed men to second the attack on Ottawa. Ottawa is situated up the Illinois, and is distant about 200 miles from this city. We believe Smith has been traveling in the northern part of the state, for the purpose of keeping from the arrest made under the requisition of the governor of this state, which accounts for his being lodged in gaol at Ottawa." The *St Louis Bulletin* of the 3rd instant announces Smith's rescue by his followers. The Mormons have conducted the false prophet to Nauvoo, where they will strengthen their military position, and wait the action of the state authorities. They are now too strong for any force Judge Lynch can bring against them.

THE FRENCH AT TAHITI.—The following is an extract from a letter received from an officer of her Majesty's ship *Vindictive*, under date Tahiti, the 26th of February last:—

"After a passage of five weeks from Sydney, we arrived here yesterday, having the consul on board, together with a coach, dresses, and other things, presents from Queen Victoria to Queen Pomare. We found the French had been threatening Queen Pomare to destroy the town, and had demanded 10,000 dollars if she did not consent to sign a petition to the French to take her country under their protection. This document they got some Roman catholics, Americans, and others of little or no consequence, to sign, and they have appointed a governor and one or two more to regulate the affairs of the island, and if they find any one talking against them they continue threatening to blow down the town. I sincerely hope that our ministry will never allow the French to stay. I was ashore this morning, and saw the missionary school, and attended the divine service of the natives. Nothing could be more orderly and decent; and considering that a few years since these very people were living in the greatest state of barbarism, destroying their own children, fighting with each other in perpetually vindictive warfare, offering up human sacrifices, and other things as shocking to human feelings, great credit is due to the missionaries. From such a state the missionaries have brought it to a state of civilisation, the women wearing gowns and caps instead of being naked, and good houses built, cattle introduced, and other benefits. Now the French come, bring Roman catholic priests, and subvert every good thing. I was introduced to Pomare last evening. She is a very fine, lusty, copper-coloured woman, of about 40 years of age. She had on a loose silk gown that reached to her feet, and you could not see that she had any other article of clothing on. February 27.—Pomare hoisted her flag yesterday at her palace for the first time since the French have had possession of the island. We gave it royal salute of 21 guns. The French captain came on board to complain of it. Our captain told him that we did not acknowledge the French government here."—*Devonport Journal*.

TEFLIS, JUNE 29.—A letter on the state of the war in Circassia explains the position of the Circassians, which seems to have become more formidable than at any previous period.

A debate took place on the 18th ult. in the Bavarian diet at Munich, upon the expediency of granting a certain sum of money for the purpose of maintaining a pond in every district in the kingdom, to breed leeches. The bill passed.

CONTAGION OF PLAGUE.—A letter from Cairo says:—"Some very important results have been obtained by the commissioners who have been sent by the Russian government to this country, in order to make experiments as to the contagion of plague, and the means of arresting the propagation of the virus. One most satisfactory conclusion has been already come to, and, if nothing more be done, that conclusion must lead to the early modification and final overthrow of the whole quarantine system as at present constituted; for the commission have come to the unanimous opinion that articles of any sort, after having been subjected to a temperature of from fifty to sixty deg. of Raumur, cannot communicate the plague. The commissioners collected a large quantity of garments, of sundry tissues, and of susceptible raw materials, which were thoroughly impregnated with the supposed virus of the plague; these were placed in a chamber heated by a stove to the temperature of between fifty and sixty degrees

(Raumur), some portions loose, some portions tied lightly, others closely pressed together, and others in cases hermetically closed; they were subjected to the heat for forty-eight hours. Sixty-six persons, of all ages and temperaments, including Turks, Egyptians, Syrians, and Negroes, were clad in the garments, and put in the closest contact with the articles which had been thus heated. The board of health, and the various medical authorities at Cairo, were called in to exercise the necessary control and surveillance over these very important experiments. The result has been that not one single person of the sixty-six has been attacked by plague, or his health affected in the slightest degree by the experiments to which he has been subjected."

TOTAL LOSS OF THE TROOP SHIP ALERT.—Within the last two or three days the authorities of the War office have received intelligence of the total loss of the troop ship Alert, Captain Daley, commander, whilst on her passage from Halifax to England, having on board part of her Majesty's 64th regiment, whose escape is somewhat extraordinary. In addition to the troops on board, they had their several families with them, altogether amounting to about 200 men and 95 women and children. All on board were alarmed by the ship striking on a rock, off Country harbour, near Goose island, about eighty miles distant from Halifax. Orders were instantly given to work the pumps, which the men did vigorously, some of the soldiers taking it in turns. The vessel's course was instantly altered for the purpose of running her into the nearest place for shelter, but on the captain finding that the water was increasing in the ship's hold, he made known the fact to the officers of the regiment, and also his intention of running the ship ashore, for the preservation of the lives on board. Within an hour afterwards she grounded on the shore of the Goose island. There is but little doubt, but for the praiseworthy conduct of the captain and officers, an immense sacrifice of life would have taken place. After several hours' toil and exertion, the whole were safely landed. The ship has since become a total wreck, and the whole of the baggage belonging to the troops is lost, and the greatest distress prevails amongst the poor creatures, they having lost all their clothing. The total loss is said to exceed £20,000.

INHUMAN PERSECUTION OF FIVE ROMAN CATHOLIC MISSIONARIES.—The *Singapore Free Press* of the 13th of April gives a long and painfully interesting account of the imprisonment of five Roman catholic French missionaries by the authorities of Cochin China, who subjected them to the grossest indignities and to severe torture, to induce them to abjure their religion. They were at length rescued from the hands of their savage persecutors by the commander of the French ship of war, L'Heroine, who threatened, if they were not released, to sail up to the capital and bombard it. These reverend gentlemen are Messrs Berneaux, Galy, Charrier, Miche, and Duclos, all of whom were detained in prison, loaded with fetters, and suffering the most cruel treatment, when the Heroine, returning from her cruise to China, anchored in Turon bay, to demand their liberation.

MEXICO.—The only matter of interest from Mexico since the last advices is the introduction of the new constitution into the republic, which was solemnised on the 13th of June at the capital. A new organisation of congress will be the consequence of it, who, as soon as composed, will elect the next president. The country has all the appearance of a lasting tranquillity, and the war with Yucatan is considered at an end. Business is, as usual at this season of the year, very dull.

The *Augsburg Gazette* publishes a letter from Belgrave of the 22nd ult., stating that Baron Lieven has demanded formally from the senate the expulsion of Wucsitsch and Petroniewich, with a threat, in the event of refusal, of the non-recognition by the Emperor Nicholas of the election of Prince Alexander.

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

ANTI-DUELING ASSOCIATION.—A very numerous meeting of noblemen and gentlemen, chiefly military and naval officers, took place on Friday in the large room of the British Coffee house, Cockspur street, "for the purpose of considering the propriety of memorialising the Queen to aid in the suppression of dueling, by visiting those who engage in that unchristian practice with the marked expression of her Majesty's displeasure." Viscount Lifford was called to the chair; and among those present were Lord R. Grosvenor, M.P.; Lord H. Cholmondeley; Captain Sir Edward Parry, R.N.; Admiral Sir F. Austin; Admiral Oliver; Rear-admiral Manginn; Captain the Hon. F. Maude; Hon. Captain Vernon Harcourt; Hon. C. Howard, M.P.; Captain Childers; Captain Sir H. Hart, R.N.; Sir Robert Inglis, Bart., M.P.; Captain J. Trotter; Captain H. Hope, R.N.; Captain Roberts, R.N.; Hon. W. Cowper, M.P., &c. After several admirable speeches, strongly denouncing this absurd and wicked practice, a memorial to the Queen was proposed and adopted. The noble Chairman stated that the institution for the suppression of dueling already numbered 416 members, of whom 23 were noblemen, 15 sons of noblemen, 18 members of parliament, 20 baronets, 35 admirals and generals, 32 colonels, 56 captains in the royal navy, 26 majors, 42 captains in the army, 26 lieutenants, and 28 barristers.

THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN INSTITUTE.—The first evening meeting of the British and Foreign Institute took place on Thursday evening in the Hanover square rooms, for the purpose of hearing an inaugural lecture "On the pleasures and advantages of intellectual intercourse, and the peculiar adaptation of

the institute to provide the most agreeable modes of its enjoyment," by J. S. Buckingham, Esq. The Earl of Devon was in the chair. The large concert room was crowded, and much interest was manifested in the proceedings throughout.

THE CUSTOM-HOUSE FRAUDS.—Two landing waiters, named Homersham and Blake, were deeply implicated in the late custom-house frauds. Blake, who possessed a fine estate near Dublin, retired to Ireland after his dismissal, and continued to reside there until within the last few days, when he came over to the metropolis. In the mean time the commissioners of customs had determined upon proceeding against Blake for the extent to which it had become known he had defrauded the crown. For this purpose a warrant was issued at the suit of the Attorney-general, directed to the sheriff of Middlesex, for upwards of £20,000, and placed in the hands of a custom-house agent named Boys, who was well acquainted with the person of Blake. A few days since Boys succeeded in capturing Blake, and he has been removed by a writ of *habeas corpus* to the Queen's prison, where he now remains. A second detainer has been lodged against him at the instance of the crown, and it is said that the claim against him altogether amounts to nearly £80,000.

LAW FOR THE POOR.—If ever there was a case in which the magistrate ought to have put his hand into the poor-box instead of resorting to his power to punish, we think that every one of our readers will agree with us in thinking that this was that case:—

"**CLERKENWELL.**—On Tuesday, a young woman named Jane Ward, aged about 18, a mild-looking and apparently destitute creature, was charged with begging. Jones, the mendicity officer, deposed that on the previous evening he saw the prisoner begging in Montagu street, Russell square. Witness saw her receive money from two persons, and took her into custody. Mr Combe—What have you to say to the charge? Prisoner—I was only trying to get a few halfpence to buy a little lavender to sell in the streets. (The poor creature burst into tears, and continued to weep bitterly.) Mr Combe—Is she known at the Mendicity as a beggar? Jones—No, sir, not that I am aware of. Prisoner—I never begged, indeed, sir; I was trying to get a few pence to buy lavender. In answer to further questions from the magistrate, she said that her mother and father lived in Spitalfields some years ago, but that she now lived with a married couple named Street, in Queen street, Bloomsbury. Mr Combe asked the police officers present if they had ever seen her begging, or if they knew anything about her, but none of them remembered having seen her before. Jones, the mendicity officer, said he saw her some time ago in Gower street, without either shoes or stockings on. Did not see her begging. The prisoner protested in the most solemn manner that she had never begged, and that when the officer apprehended her on the previous evening, she had just sold the last bunch of her lavender. Jones—I never saw any lavender at all with you. Mr Combe sentenced her to seven days' imprisonment in the House of Correction. The poor girl was removed weeping bitterly."

Now is not this monstrous? What was alleged against this miserable girl? Simply that she had asked for money. And what was proved? Literally nothing. Not even one single act of beggary, much less habitual mendicity. On the latter point the evidence (such as it was) completely failed; and for the former, it does not appear but that the poor creature was, after all, selling, and not begging. All that is said is, that the witness (the only witness) did not see anything sold, though he saw money paid. And who is this only witness? The accuser—the society's officer. Is this either law or justice? Admitting that the receipt of a money gift is, without more, a crime, we ask, was it proved? And yet this poor girl is sent to prison for seven days, and perhaps ruined for ever.—*Times*.

FATHER MATHEW'S TEMPERANCE MISSION.—Great success has attended the efforts of Father Mathew in the temperance cause during the past week, at the Roman catholic cemetery, Commercial road East, and the meetings have been numerously attended. On Tuesday last, batch after batch went up to receive at his hands the pledge, Earl Stanhope assisting the cause of total abstinence by his co-operation and speeches. In the course of the day Father Mathew made a long speech, in which he indignantly repudiated the calumnious charges which had been made against him.

He said that a brother whom he dearly loved was the proprietor of a large distillery in Ireland, the bare walls of which cost £30,000, and he was compelled to close it and was almost ruined by the temperance movement in that country, and the pledge which the people had taken to abstain from intoxicating drinks. The husband of his only sister, whom he also dearly loved, was a distiller, and became a bankrupt from the same cause [hear, hear, hear]. He was sorry to speak of these things, but when he was accused of being instigated to do what he had done to enrich himself, he felt compelled to deny the charge. It had been also intimated that he was making a large profit by the sale of medals—he never profited a shilling, and never would. There were two hundred of them sold on Monday for a shilling each. The expenses of the day amounted to £15, and the overplus, if any, would be devoted to the furtherance of the cause of total abstinence [cheers].

He concluded by exhorting the people to come forward and take the pledge—

"Come forward, my friends—Englishmen, Irishmen, and Scotchmen—and join in taking the pledge to abstain from that which has been the cause of so much crime and misery in this beloved country: come forward all of you, and kneel down: don't be ashamed, my friends, to do it publicly, several ladies and gentlemen have condescended to take the pledge with you—come forward, my friends, and follow the example of that good nobleman, Earl Stanhope, who took the pledge with his more humble fellow countrymen and countrywomen on this ground—come forward and take the pledge, and you will never have cause to regret it."

Upwards of two hundred persons made their way through the crowd, with the assistance of the police, and answered Father Mathew's appeal by taking the pledge kneeling, in which they were joined by a number of well-dressed persons who descended from the platform for that purpose. Father Mathew gave them his blessing, and touched them all. Such has been the course of proceeding day after day. On

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Father Mathew continued his labours at the same spot, being engaged from morning to night in administering the pledge. Though the majority of the audience were of the working classes, a great many persons of a superior station took the pledge, including a number of ladies. On each day, in spite of the showery weather, from 30,000 to 50,000 were on the ground, who were addressed by various distinguished advocates of the temperance cause. On Sunday the metropolitan temperance societies marched in procession to the usual place of meeting, with their banners and badges of distinction. The work was commenced at one o'clock, Father Mathew being anxious not to interrupt the religious services of the morning. Throughout the day there could not have been less than fifty to sixty thousand visitors to the scene of Father Mathew's temperance labours, and not less than from five to six thousand received the pledge at his hands. On Monday morning Father Mathew commenced his labours at Kennington Common. The Temperance societies started from Hart's Hotel, Aldersgate street, in procession, accompanied by the reverend Father, Mr J. S. Buckingham, &c., in a barouche drawn by six horses. From 10,000 to 15,000 were present on the common to receive the procession. The work of taking the pledge immediately commenced and continued uninterruptedly throughout the day. While the pledge was being administered to some parties, Earl Stanhope, Mr Buckingham, and various distinguished advocates of the cause addressed the vast multitude on the subject of Temperance. It is computed that 5,000 received the pledge on Monday. Father Mathew was to resume his labours in the same place on Tuesday and Wednesday. To-morrow he is to visit the western division of the metropolis.

AERONAUTICS.—On Tuesday evening Mr C. Green made his 286th ascent, in his Albion balloon, from the gardens attached to Cremorne house, King's road, Chelsea, accompanied by Captain Currie, this being his forty-first ascent, on which occasion there were between five and six thousand persons present. Previous to its leaving *terra firma*, it having been announced that two aerial machines would leave the car after attaining a certain elevation, the company was informed that two lawyer's letters had been forwarded to Mr Green, intimating that he would be invading the patent of the patentee of the aerial machine, in consequence of which it was thought necessary to forego that part of the day's amusement. The ascent was made at six o'clock, and was a very beautiful sight, the evening being favourable for the trip. It descended at twenty minutes past eight o'clock, at Skreen's park, about seven miles from Chelmsford. Seven thousand five hundred feet was the highest elevation attained.

THE FIRST DAY OF OYSTERS.—On Friday, at six o'clock, the sale of oysters for the season commenced at Billingsgate, which was crowded with vendors of shell-fish, and more than the usual confusion and crowding ensued. The supply was below the average, and the demand was not so brisk as usual. There were fifty sail of vessels at market from Rochester, Whitstable, Essex, and the Cheyne rock, near the Isle of Sheppey. In the evening the young urchins of the metropolis levied tolls, where it was practicable, upon the foot passengers on behalf of their oyster-shell "grottoes."

MORTALITY IN THE METROPOLIS.—The total number of deaths during the week ending July 29 was 749, the weekly average during the last five years being 903. The highest point which the thermometer reached in the week was 74 degrees, and the lowest 49 degrees, the temperature during the preceding week having been as high as 81, and not lower than 50 degrees.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.—Between Saturday and Sunday mornings, no less than five destructive fires raged in different parts of the metropolis. At about 3 o'clock on Saturday morning a house in the joint-occupation of Mr Villiers, surgeon, and Mr Gooch, bookseller, was discovered to be on fire. The first intimation was given by a police-constable on duty in Palace-yard, who observed a glare of light through the fan window of the door leading to Mr Villiers' apartments. He sprang his rattle for assistance, and himself hastened to arouse the inmates, which he effected with some difficulty. At this period the fire appeared to be confined to the back room on the first floor, but the flames soon spread with great violence and the family were scarcely extricated before the house was one mass of fire from top to bottom. The flames spread in spite of the exertions of the firemen, and several houses in the vicinity were partially consumed, before they were finally extinguished. On the same morning the large tool manufacture occupied by Messrs Moseley, in New street, Covent garden, were destroyed in the same manner. The fire was discovered about 7 o'clock, and the neighbourhood immediately aroused. In about half an hour after the outbreak the whole range of workshops belonging to Messrs Moseley, occupying nearly 6,000 square feet, were completely enveloped in flame; and, notwithstanding the exertions of the firemen, they could not prevent the adjoining property of Mr Jones, gas-fitter, of Rose-street, from igniting, and in a very short period three workshops belonging to the latter were, with their contents, entirely consumed. The endeavours to save Messrs Moseley's manufactory having become a hopeless task, the efforts of the firemen were chiefly directed to prevent the further extension of the flames, and about nine o'clock the fire began to abate; Messrs Moseley's workshops having become a mass of ruins. The loss is estimated at £8000.—On Saturday night, shortly before twelve o'clock, a fire broke

out on the premises of Mr Mills, 105, Fore-street, Limehouse, which was not subdued until Mr Mills's premises, as well as those adjoining, belonging to the Steam-boat public house, had been destroyed. The value of the property destroyed was not ascertained with any degree of accuracy, but it is said to be very great. The whole of the damaged premises are insured in various fire offices. A second fire broke out on Saturday night, in the extensive range of premises belonging to Mr Bird, the occupier of the well-known steam saw mill and dock contractor, situate in Love lane, Old Gravel lane, Shadwell. The premises were about 150 yards in length, and nearly 50 in depth, and of proportionate height, and were fitted up with steam engines, and the usual costly apparatus. The yard of Mr Bird being filled with timber, the fire traveled along the ground, communicating to Mr Bird's private dwelling, and also to numerous houses in Love lane. To give anything like a description of the excitement that now ensued would be impossible. In one street there were to be seen the inmates escaping with what property they could lay their hands on, whilst in another numberless persons were rushing out of their houses quite frantic, and almost in a state of nudity. About half-past two o'clock there could not have been less, at a moderate calculation, than 16,000 square feet of flame ascending many hundred feet in the air, and illuminating the metropolis for miles round. To save any part of the premises was utterly impossible; the firemen therefore contented themselves with trying to prevent its further extension. The amount of property destroyed is supposed to amount to nearly £60,000. On Sunday morning at two o'clock, a destructive fire took place on the premises belonging to Mr Judd, furniture broker, and cabinet maker, No. 42, London road, Southwark. The alarm was immediately given, but the building was soon one sheet of flames. The fire engines, upon their arrival, poured a continuous sheet of water upon the burning mass; after some time the fire was extinguished, but not until damage to a considerable extent was done. Mr Judd supposes, that independent of the damage to the building, his loss will amount to nearly £1,000. The origin of the fire could not be known.

HORRIBLE STORY.—One of the most dreadful and cruel means ever heard of to destroy the life of a child, and get the body eaten up by pigs, has just come under the notice of the parish authorities of Bermondsey. It appears that on Monday night a woman was observed to go into one of the secluded meadows on the Grange road. It was discovered next morning that she had left a child about eight weeks old on the grass, and in the meadow there were about thirty or forty ravenous hogs turned out. How it is they did not scent the body of the poor child is astonishing; for, if they had, death must have been the almost instantaneous result. The child, when found in the morning, was in a dreadfully emaciated state, apparently from the want of the ordinary nourishment of an infant, and is expected to die. The parish officers have offered a large reward for the apprehension of the woman, as there is no doubt, if the child dies, it will be a case of wilful murder.—*Times*.

PROVINCIAL.

BIRMINGHAM ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the subscribers and friends of this society was held in Ebenezer Chapel, Steelhouse lane, on Tuesday evening, and was very numerously attended. The Rev. Thomas Morgan presided; and amongst the ministers and other gentlemen present we observed the Rev. J. W. C. Pennington, a coloured minister from the Congregational church, in Hartford, Connecticut; the Rev. Hiram H. Kellogg, president of Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois; the Rev. Joshua Leavitt, of Boston; the Rev. Dr Hoby, the Rev. J. A. James, the Rev. Thomas Swan, the Rev. J. Raven, the Rev. C. H. Roe; the Rev. J. Hammond, of Handsworth; the Rev. T. H. Morgan, of Stourbridge; Joseph Sturge, Esq., Edmund Sturge, Esq., Thomas Beilby, Esq., Messrs Cadbury, Albright, and W. Morgan, the secretary to the society.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings of the meeting, adverted to the circumstance of their having assembled on the 1st of August, the glorious anniversary of negro emancipation, when Britain had struck the fetters from 800,000 of her slaves, and recognised a principle which was making its gradual but onward movement amongst the slave-holding nations of the earth.

The SECRETARY then read the report of the committee for the past year, which furnished a succinct account of the proceedings of the committee, and the progress of abolition principles throughout the world since their last anniversary.

The Rev. THOMAS SWAN, in moving the first resolution, (which referred to the adoption of the report and the appointment of officers) gave a summary of the proceedings of the great anti-slavery convention held in London in the month of June, and which he had attended in connection with the gentlemen named in the report, as a deputation from the Birmingham society. With reference to that convention he was justified in saying, that there was a bold re-assertion of the leading principles connected with this great question, and many important addresses were adopted, not only to those nations who had abolished slavery, but to those also who continued implicated in its guilt. Amongst the band of delegates furnished by America, and to whose details the convention owed its chief interest, was the Rev. Mr Pennington, a noble specimen of his long-injured race, who was amongst them that evening to give a glorious refutation to all the malignant slanders which had been uttered against the mental and moral capabilities of the long-injured and degraded children of Africa. The Rev. Mr Swan here described the fearful prevalence of slavery amongst the ministers and members of every section of the Christian church in America. Even the Society of Friends were not altogether free from its guilt; for, although they held not a single slave in bondage, yet by their inaction in the great cause, they formed one of the most serious obstacles to the progress of abolition principles.

JOSEPH STURGE, Esq., moved the next resolution:—
That this meeting is highly gratified with the report presented to them of the proceedings of the convention recently held in London, and rejoices to learn that there are so many indications of the rapid progress of the cause of freedom throughout the world.

He observed that he would detain the meeting but a very short time, knowing how anxious they all were to hear the interesting details and statements in reference to the state of the cause in the United States which would be furnished by their American friends. With regard to the British part of the question, he confessed that though he had watched its progress closely he was not aware it was so great during the last three years until he heard the report read at the Anti-slavery Convention in London. The recent enactment which had taken place, by which millions of slaves in India had been liberated from bondage, formed in itself a glorious era in British history; and their American friends could, he believed, on their return to their country, now fearlessly declare that Great Britain had cleared herself of the stain of slavery in every part of her dominions. With respect to France, their friends in that country had made a report to the Chamber of Deputies as to the practicability and safety of emancipation; and now that this great principle had been acknowledged, he entertained no doubt that slavery would ere long be abolished in the French colonies [hear, hear]. In reference to Texas, the prospects of the cause were also encouraging; and there was every reason to hope that the British government was sincere in its endeavours to make the abolition of slavery a condition of their mediation between Texas and Mexico. With regard to their own colonies in the West, the results, if known in the United States, would of themselves produce a powerful effect; and he held in his hand a letter which he had recently received from a Baptist minister of Jamaica, which furnished many interesting and important details, in answer to inquiries which he had made as to the real state of the negro population at the present time. Before he noticed the letter, he begged to say, that the return of the quantity of sugar grown in Jamaica last year (1842) exceeded by one-fourth the amount produced in the year preceding, this in itself affording a conclusive proof of the industrious habits of the people [cheers]. The writer of the communication referred more particularly to the parish in which he laboured, and which might be taken as a fair sample of the rest of the island. It contained about 30,000 inhabitants, of whom 25,000 were emancipated negroes, for whom there were twenty-four places of worship connected with the Established Church, and the Wesleyans, Independents, and Baptists. There were fifteen ministers of religion, and about twenty catechists and schoolmasters, the latter superintending twenty day schools, containing upwards of 2,000 children. He had not been able to procure statistics of crime, but he was enabled to state, from personal knowledge and the best authority, that criminal offences had greatly diminished, and that the number committed during the year was much less than in any part of England. The people were purchasing lands and houses, and forming new and prosperous villages throughout the island, in which the greatest order and propriety of conduct was observed. Intelligence and religion were gradually spreading their benign influence amongst the population; old and young were learning to read; great numbers of Bibles, and religious books and tracts, were being purchased by the people; and there was not a rum shop to be seen in any of the "free villages" which had been recently established. The state of these villages was separately noticed by the writer, but we can only enumerate the names which they bear, and which afford a pleasing evidence of the grateful sense entertained by the people of the exertions of those kind friends and benefactors who had exerted themselves in the cause of freedom. One village was called Wilberforce, another Buxton, and another Sturgetown, along with which also occur the names of Salem, Content, Goshen, Liberty Valley, &c. Mr Sturge, in conclusion, observed that it was unnecessary to add anything to this gratifying picture; but he would just say that the principle on which the society was founded was, that there could be no reasonable hope of the abolition of the slave trade, except by the abolition of slavery itself, and that, in effecting this great object, they were bound to use nothing but peaceful and Christian means [cheers].

The Rev. HIRAM H. KELLOGG seconded the resolution, and entered into details in reference to the state of the cause in the United States. Although there were many and mighty obstacles in the way of freedom, yet he rejoiced to say that truth was making advances; and, notwithstanding the encouragement held out by the churches to slavery, yet there were even here some bright spots to be found, and a growing influence in behalf of the slave on the part of many who professed to love their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. They could not expect to hear of many or striking indications of this state of feeling in the slave-holding states, but there was an increasing conviction abroad that slavery was wrong, although the slave-holders themselves were amongst the last to acknowledge it. Although the prejudice against colour existed to a lamentable extent, not only in the American churches, but in all her institutions, this feeling was not universal, and was fast giving way before the light of intelligence and truth. In the legislature, too, the rights of the slave were beginning to be understood and acknowledged; oppressive and unjust statutes were being abolished, and the advocates of freedom in the senate were now enabled to plead the cause of humanity, where, a few years before, they would not have been tolerated. Many of the states of the union were also freeing themselves from all connexion with slavery, and Ohio and Massachusetts, amongst others, had repealed those enactments which provided for the arrest and custody of fugitive slaves found within their territories. These facts would show, although there were mighty obstacles in the way, that the great cause of human freedom was making gradual but certain progress.

The Rev. J. W. PENNINGTON said, that the way to understand slavery after all, as it existed in America, was to go to the law of slavery. There they would see it in its true character; and although there were instances in which masters treated their slaves with kindness and humanity, these were, after all, the exceptions to the rule, and could not for a moment be produced as an argument in support of the monstrous system which recognised the right of man to hold property in his fellow-man, and placed in his hands the power of life or death [hear]. Such was the law of slavery, as it was still found recorded on the statutes of a Christian nation. He was far, however, from wishing to disavow what was doing and what had already been accomplished in the cause of freedom. Ten years ago, when he was about to commence his stu-

dies, there was not a college or public academy in the country which would receive him within its walls, such was the prejudice against colour, and he was compelled to employ masters to instruct him in private; but this state of things no longer existed, for there were many noble institutions in which the black and the white were now permitted alike to satisfy their thirst for knowledge. With respect to the treatment experienced by his coloured brethren in the United States, none had thought more or suffered more, either directly or by sympathy, than himself; therefore he was prepared to rejoice in any advance which was made on this point; and he was happy to say that an advance had been made, brought about, he had no hesitation in saying, by the operation of conscience on the mind of the religious public of America [hear, hear]. Those who were not disposed to go with them were laying aside their violent opposition; as a proof of which he might state, that in almost all the churches of Connecticut, the ministers in their pulpits might now pray for the slave on the Sabbath. The reverend gentleman described the influence of emancipation in the West Indies on the slaves and slave-holders of the southern states; the former were well acquainted with every movement that was made, and the latter were beginning to tremble for the stability of the iniquitous system.

At the close of Mr Pennington's address, Dr Hoby inquired whether he had experienced any inconvenience on his voyage to England, from the circumstance of his being a man of colour?

Mr PENNINGTON replied, that he had been refused a passage in the cabin by the agent of the packet ship Montreal, in which he sailed from New York, and he was obliged to agree to take his meals separately, or in the steward's pantry; but his hard lot was considerably mitigated by the presence of the respected friends who accompanied him to England. On inquiring of the agent of the Great Western steamer, in London, he was happy to find that no such invidious distinction was made, there being no difference between the treatment of the coloured man and his white fellow-passenger [hear, hear].

The Rev. JOSHUA LEAVITT next addressed the meeting, and, in the course of an able and interesting speech, bore testimony to the progress of the anti-slavery cause in the United States. It was a progress better felt by those engaged in it than described; it was felt in the very air they breathed, and in the circumstance of their daily intercourse with society, and which they hailed as an evidence far more powerful and conclusive than anything they could point to in the form of statistical tables or legal proof.

The Rev. J. A. JAMES moved the third resolution—

"That this meeting has heard, with great satisfaction, of the progress of the anti-slavery cause in the United States, as indicated by the improved tone of public sentiment, the increasing readiness of the religious community to consider the question, and the rising spirit of opposition to slavery among politicians and legislators; and while we renew our pledge of sympathy and co-operation with the abolitionists of America, we express our deep conviction of the duty of every Christian and patriot in that country to unite in the most strenuous efforts for the abolition of slavery among themselves; and we desire especially to urge the importance of their resisting to the utmost, by every proper means, the annexation of Texas to their confederacy."

He adverted more particularly to his coloured brother, Mr Pennington, who presented in himself a proof of the atrocity of that system which had inflicted so much injury upon him, and which they were all so anxious to roll away from those who were still suffering in bondage. There were millions now groaning under the lash, trembling at the sight of the whip, and clanking their fetters; besotted, too, by ignorance, and living in wickedness, as a consequence of the cruelty perpetrated on them; who, if in the enjoyment of freedom, and the advantages of education, and had been present amongst them that evening, would have vindicated, as Mr Pennington had done, the rights which belonged to them, notwithstanding the colour of their skin [cheers]. It was not in reference to the success of their own cause that the friends of abolition in England kept their eyes perpetually fixed on the dark spot on the American nation. They did look upon it, it was true; but still they had little cause to plume themselves on a comparison with America. 'Twas true they celebrated that day one of the brightest events recorded in the annals of their country, but they did not forget the ages of cruelty that preceded it; and they trusted that the time was not far distant when America would have her 1st of August as well as 4th of July; and, as regarded the moral interests of their country, it would be a brighter spot in their history than even the achievement of that noble victory over British oppression which their ancestors accomplished, and in which no one rejoiced more heartily than himself [applause]. British philanthropists had given, it was true, their twenty millions to purchase the freedom of their slaves, but what was this compared with what the abolitionists were doing in America, where they found general assemblies discussing the question, conventions being held, the press and pulpit at work, and the very legislature of the federal government, tamed down in its ferocity [hear, hear]. When he found all these things going on, he did hope for America; and, moreover, when he saw how nobly she had achieved an emancipation which Britain had not yet accomplished—an emancipation from the love of strong drinks; when he reflected on the progress of the temperance cause in that country, he could not help feeling that there was sufficient moral energy and courage to achieve the freedom of the African race, when God, in His grace, should see fit to call them forth in behalf of this glorious work [cheers].

The Rev. T. H. MORGAN briefly seconded the resolution, which was adopted; and thanks having been passed to the chairman, the meeting separated about ten o'clock.

PEACE SOCIETY.

ON Wednesday evening, the 2nd of August, the members and friends of the Birmingham Peace association held their first annual meeting in Cannon street chapel, Birmingham. JOSEPH STURGE, Esq., was called to the chair at a quarter past seven o'clock, at which time the chapel was well filled by a highly respectable audience, the majority of whom were ladies. Amongst the company present were the Revs J. A. James; T. Morgan; Dr Hoby; James R. Sibree; Joshua Leavitt (Boston, U.S.); H. H. Kellogg (Connecticut); J. W. C. Pennington (Hartford); Charles Sturge, Esq.; Francis Room; Wm Room; Edmund Sturge, Esq.; Arthur Allbright, Esq.; James Stubbin, &c. &c.

The Chairman, on taking the chair, said that he would not occupy the time of the meeting further than to make a brief allusion to one important point connected with the

late Peace convention held in London—that of passing unanimously an address to the different heads of governments in the civilised world, recommending them, in all their future treaties, to introduce an arbitration clause, binding them to settle international differences by a reference to one or more friendly powers. This suggestion originated with Judge Jay, of America, and was moved in the convention by the Marquis De la Rochefoucauld, of France. It had already been presented to Sir R. Peel, the King of the Belgians, and very recently to the King of France, by whom it was very favourably received, and should France, America, and England, act upon it, the moral effect upon the world would be incalculably great [applause].

The Rev. THOMAS MORGAN moved the adoption of the first resolution:—

"That the report now read be adopted; and that the following gentlemen be the officers of the association for the ensuing year:—Treasurer, Mr Edmund Sturge—Secretary, Mr Arthur Naish—Corresponding Secretary, Mr James Stubbin—Committee, Mr James Barringer, Mr John Hadfield, Mr Arthur Allbright, Mr Henry Morgan, Mr William Jeff, and Mr John Perry."

He contended for the inviolability of human life under all circumstances, and deprecated war offensive and defensive. He could find nothing in the New Testament to sanction war. But then, it would be said, If there was nothing in the New Testament to sanction war, there was plenty in the old. In reply to this he would ask, Were those who appealed to the Old Testament in defence of war prepared to carry out the principles of the Old Testament economy? If so, to be consistent, they must stone the idolater and the adulterer, and no longer sow two kinds of seed in the same field [hear, hear]. He was a Christian, and not a Jew, and under the Christian dispensation, he would maintain that the Jewish law was not binding on him. There were moral principles in the Jewish code which were binding on every Christian, but these principles would not sanction war. "Love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and thy neighbour as thyself," was an Old Testament law, on which, said our Saviour, "hang all the law and the prophets." These had been re-endorsed, but they struck at the very root of war. Who could love his neighbour and defend war [hear, hear]? He took his stand on Christian principle, and on that ground he would contend for the blessings of peace [hear, hear].

The Rev. MR SWAN seconded the motion. He was not prepared with a speech, but he could not help congratulating the meeting on the luminous exposition which his esteemed friend who had just sat down had given of the principles by which Christians ought to be guided in reference to war. He was for peace—universal, permanent peace. He was a minister of peace, and of the gospel of peace. The gospel introduced peace and good-will to all men, and yet Christians, and professedly Christian governments, sanctioned, encouraged, and perpetuated war [hear, hear]. "One murder," the poet had said, "makes a villain—millions a hero." All were murderers who took away the life of their fellow men. That was the principle on which he would take his stand. They must go for the principle that all war was sinful [hear]. That must be pressed on the people, for if the people did not sanction war there would be no war.

"War is a game
Which, were their subjects wise
Kings would not play at" [hear, hear].

The whole mind of England was corrupted on the subject of war. John Foster, in his excellent essays, had shown that in our seminaries, where the classics were taught, the spirit of war, as exemplified in the history of the Roman soldier, was fitted to corrupt the minds of our youth, and could not but produce impressions opposed alike to the principles of the gospel and humanity. He had shown that all war was sinful; offensive war and defensive war, for if there was no defensive war there would be no war at all. Take for example two boys: the pugnacious bumps of the one, to speak phrenologically (a laugh) get excited, and he wants to fight the other boy, but the other boy won't fight. Now just because that other boy wouldn't fight, there would be no fighting; and so if they had no defensive war, they would have no war at all [a laugh].

The CHAIRMAN, to show the progress that peace principles were making amongst Christian ministers, read the names of ten ministers in Jamaica, who had requested him to act on their behalf at the late peace convention in London.

The Rev. HIRAM H. KELLOGG, of Illinois, moved the next resolution, which was as follows:—

"That whilst this meeting is well satisfied of the propriety of urging upon governments, by all suitable means, the necessity of peace for the advantage of their subjects, they have no hope of the extinction of war otherwise than in a very general refusal by the people to allow themselves to be trained to the slaughter of their fellow-creatures in battle."

He referred generally to the proceedings of the late peace convention in London, and expressed his conviction that it was calculated to do great good. He believed it had already had some influence abroad, and he doubted not it would yet have much influence at home. The resolution in his hand acknowledged the propriety, and urged the necessity, of appealing to government to put an end to war. Could it be supposed that any Christian government believed that war was essential to the well-being of the subjects? Had Britain gained or lost by the wars of the last century in which she had been engaged? Had America gained by those in which she had been engaged? Take the war from 1812 to 1815 for example. He recollects well that when America resolved to go to war the resolution was received with enthusiasm by the people, and the rallying cry was, "Free trade and sailors' rights." Well, what was the consequence? Did they get free trade? Did sailors get their rights? They did not. Instead of free trade they got no trade at all [a laugh]. Debt was contracted, blood was shed, immorality was fostered, anxiety and trepidation prevailed, crime was perpetrated, and the best associations were broken up and scattered. The consequences of that war they were suffering at the present day. Let the people of this country be enlightened on the subject. Let the dangers and difficulties of the soldier's life be brought before them. Show them that there was no glory in an epaulet, no honour in a feather, and no real enjoyment in martial music. Show them that a soldier's life was generally in the end an immoral life, and then they would refuse to become the instruments of war. And, above all, caution them to abstain from the intoxicating cup [hear, hear]. He had heard of a recruiting officer in England who had broken his temperance pledge, by lifting the glass to his lips, because he could not get men to enlist until he had first got them to destroy their reason by intoxicating drinks; thus show-

ing that the sober feeling of the people was averse to war [hear, hear]. He was glad to say that public sentiment in America was fast changing for the better; and he believed that, with the exception of a few, the people of America were honestly opposed to war [applause].

The Rev. J. C. PENNINGTON, Hartford, Connecticut, (a coloured minister) seconded the resolution. He began by drawing a contrast between the doctrines of Christianity and the doctrines of war. Men had wielded the sword for generations, but still there were enemies to conquer; the sword had been broken, and again and again it had been mended, and yet it failed to conciliate enemies and make them friends. The Son of God came. He proclaimed a new doctrine, "Love your enemies, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them that despitefully use and persecute you," "Resist not evil, but overcome evil with good." [Hear, hear.] That was the new maxim, the heaven-born maxim, by which man was taught to love his fellow-men. And look how Christ exemplified that maxim. Look at his acts, his sentiments, his motives, and then contrast them with the doctrines of Alexander the warrior, and the precepts and principles of war. The conclusion to his mind was clear the principles of peace were as broad as eternity, and as lasting as the legislation of God [applause]. War never settled a principle. Right was generally on the side of the weak, and wrong on the side of power; war never settled any question of right. The merest accident often changed the whole tide of war, and no man could maintain that it had ever settled a dispute [hear, hear]. He must oppose war by the principles of the gospel; they must follow the example of Christ if they wished to abolish war; that was the way to establish right: whatever was done by wrong policy or false means never stayed settled, and hence the conquests gained by the sword never stayed settled [hear]. He had heard of a conference of Indian chiefs, at which it was urged that there was no use in contending with General Jackson, for there was no man like him. One chief said, "I have licked him thirteen times, but he won't stay licked" [laughter]. So it was with war. War, as war, might conquer a people, but then they would not stay conquered [hear, hear]. But the operations of the principles of the gospel of peace were different. They struck at the root of the evil; for when they converted an enemy into a friend he stayed a friend [applause]. After giving an interesting account of an interview he had with a coloured person in Leeds, who is attached to the British army, and showing that war, from its nature and tendency, must oftentimes make the natives of the same country, who happened to be living in the respective nations who are at war, fight against each other, he went on to show the intimate connexion which subsists between war and slavery, and concluded by an eloquent appeal in support of the principles of peace.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The Rev. JOSHUA LEAVITT, of Boston, U. S., rose to move the third resolution—

"That this meeting regards with great satisfaction the union of so many gentlemen of different, and once adverse, nations at the late convention for the advancement of the cause of universal peace, and is gratified to learn from foreigners the increasing indisposition for war both of European nations and the United States of America, and hereby tenders their sincere thanks to the four gentlemen who attended as delegates of this association."

He did not go into the abstract doctrine of the absolute, universal inviolability of human life, as laid down by his excellent friend, Mr Swan; but, as a practical question, the idea of peace was a much more agreeable one than that of war. At home that question had been called the question of the people; and there the will of the people was the law of the land [applause]. From what he had seen and learned in this country, by mixing with people of all classes since his arrival, he felt assured that the disposition of the public mind was against war [hear, hear]. And he felt assured, also, from what he knew of the feeling of the people in his own country, that there never would be a war between America and England, unless it were resolved on before the people were made aware of it [hear, hear, hear]. What he had seen in this country had deeply impressed his mind with the conviction, that war was got up as a job [applause]. There were always some persons too lazy to work, and too proud to beg [a laugh]. To those persons the army and the navy were the way to honour, and they generally had influence enough to get government to quarrel with somebody, and all for a job [laughter and cheers]. But, when he returned home, he should tell his countrymen that the people of Great Britain were their friends, and did not want a war with America [applause]. The only danger lay in the machinations of men on this side of the water, and on the other side of the water too [a laugh], who desired to get up war as a job. He would go also with this impression—nothing was to be gained to America by a war with England, and nothing could be gained to England by a war with America [hear, hear]; therefore if they were to have war, it must be a game of nations, for the only possible motive which could induce it would be a desire to see which country could do most harm to the other [a laugh]. He did not know if the Americans could burn London, or the English burn New York, but "this I know, that a war would bring a great deal of misery to you and to me; and this I know also, none of us would gain by it, but those who get Blenheim's or Apsley houses" [much applause]. Mr Leavitt then gave a very interesting account of the boundary question and expressed his satisfaction that the Ashburton treaty had removed that cause of difference between this country and America.

The Rev. JOHN ANGELL JAMES seconded the motion, and in his usual impressive manner appealed to the meeting in support of the principles of universal peace. The resolution was unanimously carried. A vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman, and the meeting broke up.

MR COBDEN AND THE SUFFOLK FARMERS.—In pursuance of an invitation, forwarded through Lord Charles Fitzroy, from the inhabitants of Bury St Edmunds and several of the most respectable agriculturists in the vicinity, Mr Cobden and Mr Moore attended a meeting at the above town, for the purpose of addressing the farmers of Suffolk upon the principles of free trade and the injurious tendency of the corn laws. The place originally chosen for the meeting was the Angel hill, where the county and borough elections are held; but the mayor, Major Bullock, forbade the meeting, and not only despatched his officials to remove its announcement from the walls

of the town, but, in the excess of his zeal in the cause of monopoly, actually went about the streets and tore down the obnoxious placards with his own worshipful hand, greatly to the amusement of the people of Bury as well as their surprise. The meeting was held in a large field adjoining the market place, and about 3,000 persons, including a fair sprinkling of farmers, assembled to hear the leaguers. Colonel Addison was called to the chair, and opened the proceedings in neat and effective address. Mr Cobden then spoke for a considerable time, and met with an opponent in the shape of a clergyman named Maberly, who at length wearied out the meeting with his random observations. A free trade resolution was carried with the usual success; only two hands being held up against it.

STAFFORDSHIRE MINING DISTRICTS.—The state of the mining districts does not improve. While works are successively thrown out of employment in South Staffordshire, poor rates increase enormously: one colliery is mentioned on which the rate is £400; on a single pit it is £254. There is an extensive miners' association, which was originally established at Wakefield; Newcastle-upon-Tyne is now its headquarters; and it is said to number between thirty and forty thousand enrolled members, and to extend to Scotland and Ireland. Meetings last week were held at West Bromwich, Walsall, Wednesbury, &c. The *Times* correspondent of Saturday, however, says:—

"I was, however, gratified to learn from many quarters today that there has, during the past week, been a trifling improvement in some branches of the iron trade. One, I believe the largest iron master in the neighbourhood of Stourbridge, and who recently very considerably reduced his establishment, on Monday morning next puts on additional furnaces, by which some hundreds of hands find employment. This improvement also extends to the neighbourhood of Dudley. A gentleman who sells largely for three extensive works in that neighbourhood informed me to-day that, in consequence of the increase of demand, his instructions were, not to sell at the old prices, but to require an advance. This looks well for the large and wealthy iron-masters who can stand the present shock, but it is feared that the smaller and weaker men, whose credit with the bank is gone, will find no permanent support from a mere favourable turn in the market."

THREATENED STRIKE OF COLLIERES NEAR MANCHESTER.—On Monday, the 31st ult., at noon, a meeting of delegates from different parts of the Lancashire mining districts, was held on Kersal moor, on the subject of the wages they receive. About one hundred delegates attended. The chairman, a man named Lomas, from Radcliffe Bridge, stated that the object of the meeting was to form a union of all the miners in the kingdom for the purpose of securing a fair day's wages for a fair day's work; that they did not wish to strike, but the utter inadequacy of their wages for the support of themselves and families would leave them no alternative but to do so, and that when the strike did take place it would not be partial but general throughout the kingdom. Two resolutions were passed, one that the present wages of colliers were insufficient, and the other, that an association should be formed of all the miners in Great Britain and Ireland, and that the miners in Lancashire be requested to join such an association. One speaker said he had a wife and five children, and he earned from 18s. to 17. a fortnight. If he went to the poor law guardians they would give him 1s. 3d. per head a week, which would be 8s. 9d., so that he would get within 3d. of the sum he earned by hard work in the mine. Another delegate said, that near Wigan a woman had to load three tons of coal for 1d. Great hopes were held out that colliers in other parts of the country would unite and act in concert with them. The authorities, both civil and military, were on the alert, as it was expected the meeting would be a large one, and that acts of intimidation or violence might be attempted.

STATE OF SOUTH WALES.

Mr Hall, the gentleman sent down by the government to inquire into the causes of the recent and continuing outrages in the Cardigan district of the principality, and to ascertain the grievances of which the peasantry complain, commenced the duties of his commission at Cardigan on Saturday last, on which day the inquiry was conducted privately in a room at the Black Lion hotel, and numbers of farmers were there from the surrounding district, who, having heard of Mr Hall's arrival, were anxious to tell their tale of oppression and much-enduring poverty before him. After the inquiry is concluded here, Mr Hall will proceed into Pembrokeshire, as circumstances may direct.

The procession which was to have come off on Wednesday last at Swansea, on the occasion of the trial of the Rebeccaites, did not take place, by the persuasion of the prisoners' counsel.

The prisoners engaged in the destruction of Bolgoed and Rhyd-y-pandy toll bars have been liberated on bail. The magistrates heard the charge against John Morgan in his bed-chamber, this being the young man that was wounded, in self-defence, by Captain Napier. His father, Mr Morgan Morgan, then entered into recognisances for his appearance at the assizes, in the sum of £200, and Messrs Jacob Lewis and David Bevan, in the sum of £100 each.

On the subject of grievances the *Welshman* says:—

"We understand that the Tithe Commutation act does not work to the general satisfaction of Pembrokeshire. In a communication on the subject we have received from a large landowner, it is said that 'the turnpike affair is comparatively nothing to this tithe grievance—a great grievance, under which all classes groan, and which all classes appear to have made up their minds to get redressed.' You have no conception of the arrogance and rapacity exhibited by tithe-owners here,' adds the writer. Well, if he be an exponent of the general feeling in Pembrokeshire, a tithe war will follow fast on the heels of the turnpike one."

The toll-houses and bars in Glamorgan, as well as in Carmarthen, continue to fall by the hands of the Welsh guerrillas, who, from their local knowledge, the activity and precaution of their spies, and the

sympathy of the great body of the people, with their resolves against toll exactions, are enabled to laugh at the mustering of the military. Mr Maule, of the treasury, and Mr Raven, who are at Swansea to conduct and watch the proceedings before the magistrates, against the persons captured on the evidence of Jones the approver, appear convinced of the necessity of some other measures than those previously adopted to put down this career of "wild justice."

The *Times* reporter says—

"The state of feeling in South Wales continues still to be unsatisfactory and unsettled. The same outrages continue to be repeated, and I am afraid that the spirit of secret combination for carrying lawless objects into effect is taking a deeper root. This is no surmise of mine: I beg to refer you to my report below of a meeting of Rebeccaites last night, and to the statements and proceedings there, as warranting this conclusion. Still there is the same anomaly of all appearing perfectly quiescent during the day."

"On Tuesday night no less than five bars and turnpike gates were demolished around the town of Lampeter, and nearly every bar on the Cardigan roads is down."

He then goes on to relate his admission to another nocturnal meeting of the Rebeccaites, at which a Farmers' Union was formed, and resolutions carried to co-operate universally in redressing their grievances. Under date Saturday, the same party writes—

"Mr Hall, the commissioner appointed to inquire into the cause of the disturbances of this country, arrived here (Carmarthen) on Thursday night, and on Friday commenced his inquiry, in the manner I have already described to you—hearing privately the communications of every person who will go before him relative to the state of the country. Another gentleman, a barrister named Ellis, also forms part of the commission, and directs his attention solely to the accounts and management of the turnpike trusts. I understand he has expressed a strong opinion against the numerous side bars; and that he has drawn a bill, now before parliament, having for its object the consolidation of the trusts, and the gradual paying off of the tallies."

"So far from the disturbances having abated, they seem to be progressing rapidly, and a crisis of some kind must soon arrive."

"On Thursday the magistrates here again assembled for the purpose of swearing in special constables, according to adjournment; but although there were 250 summonses, no one answered. The magistrates, it is understood, will now lay the whole matter before the Secretary of State for the Home Department, and be guided by his directions as to their further proceedings in the matter."

"I send you these fragments of news, as showing pretty accurately the state of the county."

"The dragoons continue to patrol the roads every night, and a magistrate is compelled to sleep at the hotel where they are stationed, to be in readiness in case of need."

On Saturday the copper miners in the neighbourhood of Swansea struck, and attempted to enter the town in procession, to the number of 1500, but were ultimately persuaded by the Mayor and others to disperse.

REDUCTION OF RENT.—Lord Willoughby de Eresby, lord-lieutenant of Carnarvonshire, has signified his intention to allow a deduction of 12*1/2* per cent. to his tenants at the next rent day, in consideration of the very low prices of agricultural produce, and the consequent general distress of the farmers.—*Chester Courant*.

It is a significant sign of the times that the present workhouse in Sheffield, formerly an extensive cotton mill, is to be considerably enlarged; the estimated expense is £10,000, which will be advanced by the Treasury in exchequer bills, at four per cent. The loan is to be repaid by annual instalments.

THE HARVEST AND CROPS.—A small field of wheat, of excellent quality, quite ripe, was cut last week at Lye green, one mile from Bradford.—*Bath Journal*. Harvest has commenced on the south side of Portdown hill.—*Hampshire Telegraph*. The harvest has commenced in this neighbourhood. A considerable breadth of wheat was cut on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday last; wheat was also cut at Rolstone farm, Heavitree, last week. A field of barley, belonging to Mr Robert Steer, of Radway farm, Bishopsteignton, was cut on Monday last.—*Western Times, Exeter*. A number of specimens of wheat were submitted to us yesterday, plucked indiscriminately from fields within two or three miles of the town. They are miserably lean, withered, seedless, and sapless affairs, producing neither flour nor bran. In the vale of Worcester, which we happened to visit a few days ago, the wheat crop is much better; indeed in many places it is abundant and fine.—*Birmingham Journal*.

The weather in this neighbourhood has been cold, with a good deal of rain for some days past. The best informed persons now say that, from the appearance of the crops on the ground, even with the blessing of fine weather, the harvest will not commence before September, and will not be more than an average one.—*Yorkshireman*. The weather of the present week has much resembled that of the last; we have had a good deal of rain, little sun, and generally a low temperature. It is scarcely necessary to add that the grain crops ripen slowly, and that there is still a good deal of half-got hay in the fields, as well as a considerable extent of grass still uncut, partly from the unsettled state of the weather, and partly from the short grass still continuing to grow and thicken at the bottom. In the south there are complaints of the wheat ear filling slowly, and threatening a deficient yield, owing to extensive blight, but we do not perceive that the disease has extended to the northern counties. It is now pretty clear that the harvest will be late, and the circumstances of long nights and short days for gathering the corn always increases the risk of the produce being well secured.—*Leeds Mercury*.

AFFRAY AT BRIGHTON.—At the Brighton races on Thursday a corporal of the seventh dragoon guards, having lost his money at thimble-rigging, bet without the means of paying. This enraged the thimble-riggers, who mustered round him, some holding his arms while others cut off his stripes and otherwise defaced his jacket. On returning to barracks, he, of course, got into trouble, and was ordered into confinement. His comrades determined to have revenge, and accordingly on Friday afternoon met on the course, armed with sticks, about one hundred strong; the offender being identified, he and several of his gang were immediately knocked down and their ta-

bles broken to pieces. The soldiers then commenced an attack on every gambling table on the course, smashing them, and the umbrellas that covered them, to pieces. The soldiers, having completely cleared the course, were going home, when the police mustered all their strength and attacked the soldiers. A furious conflict ensued, and the battle lasted till dusk, when the parties appeared to separate by mutual consent, each carrying off their wounded. Sergeant-major Nutt, who was on the course at the time, went up to the combatants and endeavoured to stop any collision, but was himself struck most violently, and fell senseless with a severe wound in his skull, of which he is still suffering. When news of this affray had reached the barracks, a strong guard was despatched to the course, but did not arrive till the affray was completely finished; the soldiers who had been taken into custody by the police were then given up to the captain of the guard, and were taken back to the barracks. An investigation into the matter was to take place on Monday.

DESTRUCTION BY A FIREBALL.—Stamford was, on Monday week, visited by a terrific storm of thunder, lightning, and rain, and one house in North street was completely destroyed by a fireball. The house destroyed was the property of, and tenanted by, an industrious plasterer named Eusebius Beale, who at the time of the visitation was at dinner with his family (his wife and five children) in a room on the east side of the house, adjacent to the open fields. During a tremendous clap of thunder the building was struck, and instantly became shattered in every part; the floor of the room in which the family were taking their meal, was perforated by the fireball to a considerable depth in several places, and the floor of an adjoining room extensively forced up from the joists and shivered to atoms; the tiling and the rafters of the roof of the house, and of an adjoining workshop, were also totally demolished; and the walls of both buildings were riven and forced out of the perpendicular, many of the stones, bricks, and tiles being hurled to a considerable distance; and yet, in the midst of this ruin, Beale and his wife and children miraculously escaped personal injury, except what proceeded from the dreadful state of terror into which they were thrown. As quickly as possible, the father extricated the children from the suffocating smell of sulphur that prevailed in the ruined abode, in which almost every article of furniture and crockery, as well as a cased clock and one without a case, had been smashed to pieces. It is remarkable that many parts of one of the clocks have never since been found; an iron tea-tray, which was placed near it in the corner of the sitting room, was bent and perforated in a most extraordinary manner. From the ravages made all through the house, the fireball seems to have taken a variety of routes. It is imagined that, on making its exit at the bottom of the workshop door, it ran up on the outside, and entered the place again at the top of the door, leaving traces of its scorching influence in all its course. Mr Beale and his family, in their great distress, happily found an asylum in the house of a relation in the town, but the loss of property is very great to them. A collection has been made on his behalf.—*Stamford Mercury.*

SHOCKING ACCIDENT.—At six o'clock on Wednesday morning last, a shocking accident occurred at Berry hill colliery, Staffordshire potteries, which belongs to the Fenton park company. It appears that four men were descending the pit to work, at the same time that a corf, loaded with coal, was ascending; when, dreadful to relate, a lynch-pin in one of the wheels of the machinery gave way—the corf containing the coal descended the pit rapidly, and the four unfortunate men were drawn up again and precipitated over the wheel forty yards into the air, and every one killed. Their shattered limbs were scattered in every direction.

DESTRUCTION OF A COLLIERY.—An occurrence, involving the destruction of property to the value of many thousands of pounds, and the total deprivation of employment to several hundreds of work people, took place on Tuesday evening at the colliery of John Fitzgerald, Esq., in the township of Pendleton, near Manchester. The coal pit in question was commenced about six years ago, occupying about three years in its completion, and is 460 yards deep from the surface. It was thought proper to increase the strength of the metallic curb or sides of the pit near the bottom, for the more effectually excluding the water from the pit. For this purpose cast metal segments of circles were used. This had been done to a considerable extent, when the water rushed into the pit in a terrific stream, crushing the curbs into the form of a triangle, and completely setting at nought all attempts to arrest its progress. Mr Fitzgerald's loss will, it is said, amount to £50,000.

EXECUTION OF SARAH DAZLEY.—On Saturday the awful sentence of the law was carried into execution on the body of Sarah Dazley, who was convicted at the late Bedford assizes of the wilful murder of her husband, and suspected of being accessory to the death of her former husband and her daughter, by administering a quantity of arsenic to them. She had been every day visited by the reverend ordinary of the gaol, to whom it is understood she has made some confession of her guilt. In going to the gallows, she appeared in a dreadful condition, and was obliged to be supported. She was executed at twelve o'clock, in the presence of an immense multitude, amounting to nearly 10,000 persons. The body, after hanging the usual time, one hour, was cut down, and was interred the same night within the precincts of the prison.

According to the *Stockport Advertiser*, arrangements are now in progress for the reception of 300,000 stand of arms in Chester castle, for the use of the northern district.

IRELAND.

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—An adjourned meeting of this association was held on Friday, at the Corn exchange, to take into consideration the letter of M. Ledru Rollin, a member of the French chamber of Deputies, on the subject of repeal. Mr O'Connell read the letter to the meeting. It is couched in moderate terms, disclaiming any sinister intentions on the part of the French democrats. Here is an extract:

History has more than once united the Irish forces with those of France; and permit me to say, that at the present day politics draw these two nations together again. A matter of form separates us—you are monarchical, and we are not so; but our intention never was to interfere with your views, or to involve your loyalty in suspicion. But Ireland wishes to emancipate herself from the yoke which seven ages of oppression have imposed upon her head. She asks equality of rights for her citizens—liberty for her worship—the privilege of governing herself—she desires to produce a re-action against an odious conquest—to reform the mode in which property, the fruit of spoliation, is constituted—in fine, her enemy is also our enemy—the enemy of equality and of liberty all over the world—the English aristocracy.

After some complimentary comments on the spirit of the letter, Mr O'Connell proceeded to read his reply. In that he says—

We understand each other perfectly. Your present countenance and sympathy is bestowed upon men who are struggling within the limits of local and constitutional principle for the rights and liberties of their native land—of men who desire to use no other means than those which are peaceable—means having no other efficacy than that which arises from their moral force and power. You, indeed, allude to another contingency, in which you may be disposed to be more active in our support. But that is a contingency which we decline to discuss, because we now deem it impossible that it should arise; the British government having retracted every menace of illegal force and unjust violence, and confirming its resistance to our claims—if it shall continue to resist those claims—within the ordinary channels of legalised administration.

The letter concludes with a somewhat obscure reference to the democratic principle. Mr O'Connell, in a long speech, then referred to the debate on Mr Ward's motion on the Irish church; praising that gentleman; vilifying Lord Eliot; arguing the question on its own merits; and finishing up with an unsparing attack on the whigs, in the following terms:

Where was the party that was to do so much for Ireland? Were they to be found amongst the tories? The learned sergeant (Murphy) said not, and in this he (Mr O'Connell) agreed with him. Were they to be found amongst the whigs? If so, why were they not present at the debate upon Mr Ward's motion? But he did not regret that they were absent, for had they been there, they would have voted against it. He expected nothing from the whigs. Lord John Russell made a speech the other night against Ireland; and, in his anxiety to say something against O'Connell, went out of his way for the purpose of gratuitously expressing it as his opinion that the repeal meetings were illegal. He was glad that Lord John Russell had acted so; for this little incident revealed, more eloquently than could a thousand arguments, the animus by which the whig party and their leader were actuated towards Ireland. But, mark the strange—the startling inconsistency of the man. This very same statesman, who declared the repeal meetings were illegal, had, on a former occasion, espoused the cause of the Irish magistrates, and denounced the conduct of Lord Chancellor Sugden, in dismissing them, as illegal and indefensible. But, if Lord John Russell was right in declaring that the meetings were illegal, Lord Chancellor Sugden was right in dismissing the magistrates for attending them, and Lord John Russell was wrong in having denounced the Chancellor's conduct as unconstitutional [hear, hear, and cheers]. See into what predicament the leader of the whigs was placed by his own words. In his rash impetuosity to put a slight upon Ireland, that he might thereby find favour in the eyes of England, he had betrayed himself, stultified himself, and besmeared himself with the tar of political turpitude. There was the leader of the whig party, who in the same breath vindicated Sugden and condemned himself [hear, hear]. Oh! it was delightful to see those men showing themselves up in this kind of way [laughter and cheers]. But the Irish people were now told, indeed, that they ought to dance attendance on the whigs, for that they were great friends of theirs. He hoped that they had read the speech of his beloved friend and colleague, Mr Roche, upon the subject of the whigs' claims to the favour of the Irish people, for it was, indeed, a speech challenging the warmest commendation, and well worthy the attention of all true Irishmen.

He then read an extract from Mr Roche's speech. The *Morning Chronicle* argued that he (Mr O'Connell) was guilty of inconsistency in now denouncing the whigs, and quoted passages of his, in which he spoke favourably of them when there was fierce contention between both parties. Why, to be sure, he always had preferred the whigs to the tories; but as to admiring the whigs in the abstract, or of considering them worthy of support by themselves, such a preposterous thought never entered his mind. He had repeatedly illustrated his affection for them by a familiar allegory, and declared that he supported them for the same reason that Paddy thrust his hat in the broken window—not to let in the light, but to keep out the cold [laughter]. That was the way he treated the whigs. They kept out the tories, but they let in no light; and be it known to them that Ireland disdained and despised them. He concluded by moving—"That the extract from Mr Roche's speech be inserted on the minutes, and that the thanks of the association be offered to Mr Roche, as a token not merely of gratitude to the honourable gentleman, but also in order to mark their unqualified condemnation of any alliance with the whigs."

FEDERALISM AND REPEAL.—In the Dublin papers appears a correspondence between Mr S. Crawford and Mr O'Connell, in which the former announces his adherence to "Irish federalism," or maintenance of imperial legislation by the united parliament, with local legislation for local purposes. Mr Crawford says—

"A weaker country combined with a more powerful one in an imperial legislature has no security but that which would be derived from perfect incorporation, identification, and similarity of legislation; that is not the case as respects Britain and Ireland—therefore, for all separate legislation, local representation is necessary—is, in my opinion, indispensable." Mr O'Connell says in reply—

"Should you deem it right to join the Repeal association, your presence will be hailed with acclamation and respect. It is probable that your example will be followed by many other landlords of your class, many of whom have, as yet, neglected to join us. The number of those who join is, indeed, increasing, but it is desirable that it should include all that class. Nothing can

be more absurd than to accuse repealers of a desire for separation, or for revolutionary violence. What we want is to preserve and improve the social state—not to injure it. What we desire is to consolidate the connexion with England on a proper basis—not to sever it. It is quite true that we are determined never to acquiesce in the social misery and political grievances of which we now have to complain."

In a subsequent letter Mr Crawford declines Mr O'Connell's invitation to join the association as a federalist, on the plea that to connect himself with a repeal body would be inconsistent with his principles. At the same time he reiterates his opinions in favour of federalism, and thinks that the liberal party might join in seeking for such a measure.

REPEAL DEMONSTRATION AT CASTLEBAR.—This demonstration took place on Sunday, July 30th. According to the *Freeman's Journal*, the procession which preceded Mr O'Connell into Castlebar was fully three miles in length, and the denseness of the crowd was such that it was impossible to move at a more rapid pace than one mile an hour. When the procession had arrived at the place of meeting, the same authority states that there could not have been less than 250,000 or 300,000 persons present. Mark Blake, Esq., M.P., having been called to the chair, briefly addressed the meeting. Speeches were also delivered in support of resolutions by Joseph Myles McDonnell, Esq., Geoffrey Martin, Esq., R. D. Browne, Esq., M.P., Valentine Blake, Esq., Charles Lynch, Esq., and Martin Blake, Esq. A vote of confidence in Mr O'Connell was then carried, after which the learned gentleman addressed the meeting at great length, and on the several topics on which he generally animadverts in the course of his orations. In the evening three hundred persons sat down to a banquet given to Mr O'Connell, Mr Steele, and Mr D. O'Connell, jun.

A TREASURY MINUTE.—bearing date 25th July, has been issued, warning all officers of the revenue departments in Ireland from joining or contributing to the funds of the associations formed for the repeal of the union, on pain of dismissal.

THE REPEAL RENT.—Last week's rent was £2004 10s. 8d. The announcement at the meeting on Tuesday was received with protracted cheering. Mr O'Connell then made a speech, condemning the conduct of the whigs.

THE QUEEN AND PUSEYISM.—The Dublin Protestant Operative association and Reformation society has forwarded a very extraordinary memorial to Lord De Grey, complaining of a paragraph in the *Belfast Vindicator*, in which it was asserted that her Majesty has a leaning towards the Puseyite doctrines. Similar paragraphs had previously appeared in an Oxford paper, and that society sent a memorial remonstrating against such dangerous and treasonable publications. Lord De Grey, entering into the spirit of the memorialists, has caused an answer to be returned, intimating that he had consulted the law officers of the Crown on the subject.

COLLISION WITH THE POLICE.—A dreadful occurrence has taken place at Turloughmore fair, which is thus narrated by the *Evening Mail*:—"Mr Tomkins Brew (the stipendiary magistrate) with a few police attended the fair, and in the evening was getting the tents taken down, when he was resisted, and in a sudden rush the police were all disarmed. The country people then, frightened at what they had done, returned the arms, when a fresh party came up and renewed the attack. Brew, who is a remarkably humane, temperate man, unwilling to sacrifice life, retreated; the mob, in pursuit, pelting them with stones, one of which struck the head-constable and laid him senseless on the ground; they now could no longer retreat without sacrificing his life, and the order to fire was given, when one man was shot dead, three others are not expected to recover, and several are more or less wounded."

HORRIBLE MURDER IN NORTH TIPPERARY.—A most horrible and barbarous murder has been perpetrated in North Tipperary. A respectable farmer, named Rody Donohoe, who lived at Nicane, near Toomavara, was waylaid by four men between these two mentioned places, who beat his head into a mutilated and shapeless mass, with stones and bludgeons. This murder, like all others in the same county, with one or two exceptions, claims for its cause the taking of land. There is one melancholy circumstance connected with it which, if possible, makes it more deeply distressing. Rody Donohoe was murdered in a mistake for his brother John, who had lately taken some land in the neighbourhood of Toom, from which the Shelleys, relatives of his by marriage, had been ejected. The murderers had been lying concealed in a pit near the Shelleys' house for the greater part of Thursday evening, and it was out of it they rushed upon their unsuspecting and innocent victim.

EXPLOSION OF BALLINCOLLIG POWDER MILLS.—The *Cork Examiner*, of Monday, says—"A fearful explosion of gunpowder in one of the granulating mills at Ballincollig, the property of Sir John Tobin and Sons, within four or five miles of this city, took place on Saturday last. The shock, accompanied by a loud crash as of thunder, was felt in town between the hours of one and two o'clock, and created considerable alarm. Two persons only have been killed, viz., John Carroll and Jeremiah Long, labourers, young and unmarried. No possible light has been, or in all likelihood ever can be, thrown on the origin of this fearful affair. Three troops of the 2nd dragoon guards were drawn up in a line but a few minutes before the accident, under the inspection of General Sir Octavius Carey; but at the moment of the explosion, they were most fortunately in a distant part of the field, otherwise the consequences, serious as they are, would certainly have been much more so. The bodies of the unfortunate sufferers were cast a considerable distance, and in quite different directions."

SCOTLAND.

AYRSHIRE ELECTION.—The nomination of a member for Ayrshire took place on Thursday, and Mr Oswald was returned without opposition. At the meeting which we referred to in our last as to take place this day week, for the purpose of organizing opposition to the return of Mr Oswald, it was considered too late to enter the field at the present election, but it was resolved that no effort should be left untried that can be expected to lead to the rescue of the county, by another vacancy. In some of the Ayrshire towns the electors have already agreed to organize themselves. A general feeling of dissatisfaction pervades the county at the mode in which the election had been got over, and also on account of the apparent unfitness of their new representative for the situation he has aspired to. Independent of the former liberal strength of the country, and the expected accessions from the members of the Free Church, many of the tories themselves threaten to break loose from such trammels, and from the further support of a party who send forward such unqualified and uninfluential persons to represent them. The proceedings at this return were tame and uninteresting. There seem to have been neither enthusiasm nor support from the public, or even from a party. The whole merit of Mr Oswald, and the whole cause of his election, seems to have been, that no other person could be got forward.—*Glasgow Saturday Post.*

Religious Intelligence.

CHRISTIAN YOUNG MEN'S SOCIETIES.—To give vigour and effect to existing societies, to create new associations, to circulate information, and to unite the minds and sympathies of Christian young men, are the leading objects of a union recently established in the metropolis, and conducted for these praiseworthy purposes. This London union proposes to correspond, as far as practicable, with every existing young men's society; to keep lists of well regulated lodging houses in the metropolis; to introduce young men to suitable associations, and to carry out such plans as may be calculated to benefit young men generally. In the societies already connected beneficial effects are experienced, and it is hoped that the extension of this principle of combination, in embracing all kindred associations, will add to the permanence and usefulness of each in connexion with this union. We know that several societies are established in this town in connexion with Christian churches, the benefits of which are enjoyed by all their members. From such, no doubt, many young men direct their steps to London, in quest of employment, but being strangers there, experience much difficulty and privation, which might be avoided were they to unite, on their arrival there, with the metropolitan union.—*Manchester Times.*

WYMONDHAM, LEICESTERSHIRE.—On Thursday, the 20th ult., the Rev. W. Smith, late of Cotton End academy, and formerly town missionary at Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, was ordained to the work of the Christian ministry, in the congregational chapel, Wymondham, Leicestershire. The services of the day were commenced with reading and prayer, by the Rev. J. Smedmore, of Leicester; the Rev. J. Legge, of the same place, delivered the introductory discourse, from Matthew, chap. xi. verse 8. The Rev. J. Roberts, of Melton Mowbray, asked the usual questions, and received from Mr Smith a confession of his faith. The Rev. T. Mays, of Wigston Magna, offered the ordination prayer; the Rev. J. Frost, of Cotton End, Mr Smith's tutor, delivered the charge. In the evening, the Rev. J. Roberts preached to the people on their duties to their minister, and at the close of the service Mr Smith's infant son was baptized by the Rev. J. Frost. This cause has greatly increased during Mr Smith's residence among them.

GRAVESEND.—The new baptist chapel, erected in Windmill street (of which the first stone was laid on the 29th of March), was opened last Tuesday, by a public prayer meeting, at seven in the morning, and three appropriate sermons in the day, by the Rev. Dr Cox, the Rev. W. B. Bowes, and the Rev. James Smith, of New Park street; many other ministers taking part in the services. The congregations were very numerous, a large number of friends being unable to gain admission at each service. Thus, by the operation of the voluntary principle, under the divine blessing, the baptist denomination has, at length, obtained a handsome, and commodious, and a very substantial place of worship in this large and populous town, where it had long been needed, and where, we trust, it will prove a great blessing. The building, which met the approbation of all, has been erected by Mr Gould, of Gravesend, and is highly creditable to the taste and workmanship both of builder and architect. The day throughout was exceedingly fine, and the blessing of the Lord, we trust, rested upon the opening of this house for his worship. We cannot omit noticing the superior arrangements and excellent supplies provided at the dinner, tea, and supper, in the large room of the Literary institution; the whole of which were kindly undertaken by Mr Butcher, of High street, at cost price, and gave universal satisfaction. It was stated that £500 became due to the builder the day of opening, £125 of which were collected on Tuesday, leaving £375 deficient, besides £621, due in four months, to complete the contract.

WESLEYAN METHODIST ASSOCIATION.—The eighth annual assembly of this body commenced at Leeds, on the 28th ult., and continued throughout the following week. The Rev. John Peters, of Sunderland, was elected president; Mr H. Johnson, of Leeds, secretary; and Rev. H. Breeden and G. Turton,

Esq., of Sheffield sub-secretaries. In some circuits, there has been an increase, in others, a decrease in the members of the association. At the Tuesday sitting the subject of education came under the consideration of the assembly, and gave rise to an interesting conversation, which resulted in the appointment of a committee to consider the whole subject, with a view to extend the benefits of education among the children of the members of the body, and others who may be entrusted to the charge of the respective societies, both in relation to Sabbath and day schools, and to report to the assembly, when some measures on this most important subject will be adopted. During the agitation which followed the introduction to parliament of the recent Factories Education bill, a defect was observed in the arrangements of the connexion, showing the want of some central authority to call the attention of the societies throughout the country to matters which may arise during the year, of a civil nature, likely to affect injuriously the general welfare of the association, and to supply that defect, a committee of privileges was appointed, consisting of the president and secretary, the Revs. R. Eckett, of London, and J. Molineux, of Manchester, and Messrs. J. Petrie, of Rochdale, and D. Rowland, of Liverpool.

GOOD NEWS FROM MADAGASCAR.—The Rev. R. Knill, in a letter to the *Patriot*, communicates the following extract of a letter from a late member of his church now residing at Port Elizabeth, Madagascar:—"I received a letter from Mrs Johns a few weeks ago. She was quite well, and, as it regards Madagascar, in good spirits. Her dear devoted husband had just returned from Madagascar, and his hopes of a wide door being opened there fills him with encouragement that his labours have not been in vain. At Nosimitsia, Mr Johns left Rafaravava and Joseph. They were kindly received, and were perfectly satisfied and happy to remain among their countrymen. So Mary and Joseph are now labouring in the great cause in their own land. We hope they may be blessed. Mr Johns had communications from several chieftains of different districts, say nearly the whole of the western coast. They all appear very anxious for teachers, and promise protection to all who may come among them."

COVENTRY.—A festival of a pleasing character was held in Cow Lane chapel, Coventry, on Tuesday, the 1st instant, designed to celebrate the jubilee of that place of worship. It is not often our lot to participate in a commemoration solely characterised by the one feeling of unalloyed Christian thanksgiving; but such was the case here. The graphic narration of Richard Booth, Esq., of circumstances attending the laying of the first stone, and the actual opening of the chapel in June, 1793, carried the audience back through the intervening fifty years, and awakened chords of Christian sympathy and good will which cannot speedily cease to vibrate. It is not a little singular that there is reason to believe that the present year is the bicentenary of the establishment of the baptist congregation in Coventry by the Rev. Mr Cox, a puritan divine, and son of the then bishop of Ely. A fact was mentioned by one of the speakers, which testifies beautifully to that divine institute of Christianity, the voluntary principle; that the congregation, which is neither rich nor large, and which, in common with others, has severely suffered from the depressed condition of manufacture, has contributed during the past three years, for schools and missions, and the support of the Christian ministry (inclusive of £500 spent in the enlargement of the chapel), nearly £1500.

CASTLE DONINGTON.—On Tuesday, July 18th, the Rev. W. Edwards, late of Cotton End academy, was ordained to the Christian ministry; and although the weather was extremely unfavourable, the chapel was crowded with people from the town and neighbourhood. There was also a goodly gathering of ministers from the counties of Leicester, Nottingham, and Derby. The services were opened by the Rev. J. J. Owen, general baptist minister, resident in the place; after which the Rev. T. Mays of Wigston gave a lucid exhibition of the principles of congregational dissenters. The Rev. J. Roberts of Melton Mowbray asked the usual questions, and offered the ordination prayer, with imposition of hands. The Rev. J. Gathorn of Derby delivered to the newly ordained minister a most solemn and impressive charge; and the service was concluded by the Rev. W. Kluft of Melbourne. At two o'clock a numerous assembly sat down to dinner at the Moira Arms. A tea meeting was also held in the school-rooms adjoining the chapel, at which the attendance was overflowing. In the evening the Rev. J. Ault of Repton opened the service; after which the Rev. J. Frost of Cotton End (Mr Edwards' tutor), preached a most effective sermon to the people, from those memorable words of Moses, "Encourage him." The interest of the day was well sustained throughout, and the people appeared highly delighted. Collections were made at the close of the services, in liquidation of the debt on the chapel, amounting to £20 5s.

SHANKLIN, ISLE OF WIGHT.—On Tuesday, Aug. 1st, the second anniversary of the congregational chapel, Shanklin, Isle of Wight, was held. In the morning a sermon, remarkable for its full exhibition of evangelical truth, was delivered by the Rev. C. Gilbert, of Barnsbury Park chapel, Islington. In the evening a church was organised on congregational principles. The Rev. E. Giles, of Newport, delivered a very clear and liberal discourse on the ecclesiastical polity of congregational dissenters. The Rev. T. S. Guyer, of Ryde, formed the church, and administered the ordinance of the Lord's Supper, in which a large number of friends from other churches participated; and the Rev. Mr Gilbert gave the closing address. The Revd. C. Harrison, of

Pear-tree Green chapel, Southampton; W. Warden, of Ventnor; and S. Barrows, of Shanklin, assisted in the services of the day, which, in consequence of their special character, excited considerable interest.

MARRIAGES.

August 3, at Tonbridge chapel, by the Rev. C. G. Townley, LL.D., the Rev. M. A. GARVEY, of Kentish Town, to SARAH, only daughter of the late John MILLER, Esq., of Molesworth place, Camden Town.

July 30, at the Independent chapel, Warwick, by the Rev. J. W. Percy, Mr GEORGE RUSSELL, to Miss JANE CHENY, both of Warwick.

July 31, at the Independent chapel, Chesterfield, by the Rev. W. Blandy, Mr EPHRAIM GIBSON, to Miss HARRIET NICHOLLS, both of Chesterfield.

August 1, at Maize Hill chapel, Greenwich, by the Rev. Geo. Verrall of Bromley, Mr BROCKERTT CHAPMAN, to Miss PRISCILLA NANCY SCRIVEN, both of Woolwich, Kent.

August 3, at the Independent chapel, Pontefract, by the Rev. J. E. Millson, Mr HUGH M'DOULL, tea dealer, to Miss MARGARET CHALMERS, both of Pontefract.

DEATHS.

August 1, at Denton, aged 29, FANNY, third daughter of the late Rev. Edward HICKMAN, of Denton, Norfolk.

July 31, aged 54, much respected, Mr JOSEPH SMITH, cloth manufacturer, Horsforth. He was an active and useful Christian, and had been a deacon of the baptist church in that place 29 years.

July 27, at Yardley Hastings, Northamptonshire, aged 61, REBEKAH, relict of the late Rev. John HOPPUS.

July 27, at their country residence, Park cottage, Hanwell, Middlesex, after protracted affliction of eight years, which she bore with exemplary patience, SUSAN, the beloved wife of P. PARSE, Esq., of High Holborn, aged 37 years.

July 30, MARY ANN SAINSBURY, the beloved wife of the Rev. Thomas Sainsbury, of Basham. She was truly an excellent woman. Her end was perfect peace.

July 29, at the house of her brother, solicitor, Nottingham, MARY, the third daughter of the late Rev. J. W. PERCY, of Woolwich, Kent, after a painful illness, borne with Christian support, and sincerely lamented by her numerous relatives and friends.

August 2, at the house of his father, in Bungay, Mr JOHN CHILDS, jun., in his 26th year.

August 4, at the Sanatorium, New road, JAMES, eldest son of the late Rev. John DYER, in his 38th year.

THE CORN TRADE.—The farmers have begun to supply the various markets more liberally with wheat than for some weeks past, and the consequence has been a general decline in price. At Lynn, Boston, and Wisbeach, this week, the fall was 3s. to 4s. a quarter; and the quantity of meat brought there for sale was much larger than is usual at this season of the year, when the supply is little more than adequate to the consumption of those towns and their immediate neighbourhoods. Shipments to some extent may therefore be expected thence at Leeds and Wakefield. At Mark lane, on Monday, prices fell 2s. to 3s. a quarter, and the business was very limited; but on Wednesday there was more activity, the samples remaining unsold from Monday being taken off pretty readily at the reduced prices.—*Leeds Mercury.*

THE DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH'S DESPATCHES.—A discovery has been recently made, the interest of which it is not possible to overrate, although the extent of its historical value has only hitherto been partially ascertained. In a house in the town of Woodstock, there had been lying for many years 18 boxes, supposed to contain deeds and papers appertaining to the Marlborough estates, whose dust nobody had ever thought of disturbing, and the existence of which was probably unknown to Archdeacon Coxe when he had the ransacking of all the documentary stores of Blenheim. These boxes have been lately opened and examined, and they have been found to contain the whole of the correspondence and despatches of the great Duke of Marlborough, during the eventful period of the war of succession. A large portion of them, the letters to Prince Eugene and all the foreign sovereigns, princes, and generals, are in the French language. They form a collection very much resembling the compilation of Colonel Gurwood, and the partial examination which there has been time to bestow on them has been just enough to prove the very great interest of the matter they contain. We understand that these precious and important documents have been confided, by the present Duke of Marlborough, to the custody and inspection of Sir George Murray.—*Times.*

Trade and Commerce.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, August 4.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the 6th and 7th William IV, cap. 85:—

The Beulah chapel, Chepstow, Monmouthshire. W. E. Toye, superintendent registrar.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

FLETCHER, JOSEPH, FLETCHER, THOMAS, and DENNISON, SAMUEL, Elland, Yorkshire, woollen manufacturers.

BANKRUPT.

ALLISON, GEORGE, Darlington, Durham, scrivener, August 16, Sept. 26: solicitors, Messrs Tilson and Square, 29, Coleman street, London, and Mr Philipson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

BRYFUS, PHILIP and SOLOMON, 71, Houndsditch, importers of French goods, August 11, Sept. 7: solicitors, Messrs Young and Son, Mare lane.

BLANKS, JOHN THOMAS, Southminster, Essex, grocer, August 15, Sept. 19: solicitor, Mr Atkinson, Carey street, London.

BLANKS, WILLIAM, Rochford, Essex, draper, August 15, Sept. 12: solicitor, Mr Atkinson, Carey street, London.

CROSBIE, ROBERT, Sutton, Cheshire, tea dealer, August 18, Sept. 8: solicitors, Mr S. Minshull, Liverpool, and Messrs Vincent and Co., London.

HALL, GEORGE, Birmingham, leather seller, August 14, Sept. 19: solicitor, Mr J. Rawlins, Birmingham.

HARRIMAN, JOHN and THOMAS, Nottingham, drapers, August 11, Sept. 12: solicitors, Messrs W. and S. Parsons, Nottingham.

JONES, ROBERT, Carnarvon, draper, August 17, Sept. 11: solicitors, Messrs Sale and Co., Manchester, and Messrs R. M. and C. Baxter, Lincoln's Inn fields, London.

MASTERS, JOSEPH, jun., Witney, Oxfordshire, innkeeper, August 15, Sept. 12: solicitors, Messrs Parker and Co., 3, Raymond buildings, Gray's Inn, London.

MEASE, JOHN, Hutton, Yorkshire, flax spinner, August 14, Sept. 12: solicitor, Mr J. Blackburn, Leeds.

ROSS, SARAH and TIMOTHY, Leicester, hosiers, August 11, Sept. 23: solicitors, Messrs Brown and Palmer, Leicester, and Messrs Arnold and Co., Birmingham.

THE NONCONFORMIST.

SCOTT, JEREMIAH, late of Rochdale, and now of Manchester, innkeeper, August 16, Sept. 22: solicitors, Mr. R. Halsall, Midleton, near Manchester, and Messrs Mayhew and Son, 26, Carey street, Lincoln's Inn, London.

SOUTHERN, THOMAS, Gloucester, grocer, August 25, Sept. 15: solicitors, Mr. Murray, New London street, City, and Messrs Osborne and Ward, Bristol.

VINCENT, JAMES, Edmonton, schoolmaster, August 10, Sept. 12: solicitor, Mr. W. M. Batho, America square, London.

WOOLLAM, JOHN, St Albans, Hertfordshire, silk throwster, August 11, Sept. 9: solicitors, Messrs Milne and Co., 2, Harcourt buildings, Temple, London.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

CLARK, ANDREW, Alloa, merchant, August 8, 29.

DOWIE, JAMES, Heatherby and Kinross, wright, August 8, Sept. 5.

MCDONALD, ALEXANDER, Milburn, near Inverness, distiller, and late of Knocknagel, farmer, August 9, Sept. 1.

ITCHIE, JAMES and HUGH, Saltcoats, merchants, Aug. 9, 30.

STRACHAN, JAMES, Leith, wright, August 9, 30.

WEBSTER, JAMES, Greenock, draper, August 10, 31.

Tuesday, August 8th.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 William IV, cap. 85:—

The East Brook chapel, Bradford; Yorkgate, York; Bond Wagstaff, superintendent registrar.

Hanover chapel, Bognor, Sussex. James Powell, superintendent registrar.

The Wesleyan methodist chapel, Glastonbury, Somersetshire. Henry Badcock, superintendent registrar.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

BECKER, HANNIBAL LEIGH, and BECKER, JOHN LEIGH, Manchester, and of the Reddish mills, Lancashire, calico printers

JOHNSTON, JOHN, Manchester, banker.

BANKRUPTS.

BECK, CHARLES, jun., and WADDELL, JAMES, Leadenhall street, City, ship brokers, Aug. 16, Sept. 19; solicitor, Mr. Jordeson, 2, St. Mary-at-Hill, London.

BRAND, HENDERSON WILLIAM, Little Stanhope street, May fair, cook, August 16, Sep. 21: solicitors, Messrs Richardson and Co., Golden square.

BERR, JOSEPH EEP, and BASTICK, WILLIAM HENRY, St Thomas the Apostle, Devonshire, coal merchants, August 23, September 13: solicitors, Mr Head, Exeter; and Messrs Downes and Co., Furnival's Inn, London.

BOULTON, STEPHEN, GREENBANK, WILLIAM, BOULTON, THOMAS, and DUNCALF, JOHN, Tunstall, Staffordshire, china manufacturers, August 12, September 26: solicitors, Mr Llewellyn and Mr Cooper, Tunstall; and Mr John Smith, Birmingham.

GRAYLING, WILLIAM, jun., 15, Green bank, Wapping, tailow chandler, August 21, Sep. 19: solicitor, Mr Nias, Cophall court,

PARRY, THOMAS, Mold, Flintshire, draper, August 18, September 18: solicitors, Mr Edward Jones, Brynhryfod, near Ruthin, Denbighshire; and Messrs Milne and Co., Temple, London.

SMITHSON, WILLIAM, Thirsk, Yorkshire, linen draper, August 18, Sep. 12; sbm., Messrs Payne and Co., Leeds.

SAVAGE, GEORGE, Shropshire, razor manufacturer, August 17, Sep. 14: solicitor, Mr Evans, Shropshire, Leeds.

WILLS, ROBERT, and DAVY, RICHARD, Oxford street, drapers, Aug. 18, Sept. 19: solicitor, Mr Ashurst, Cheapside.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

COCHRANE, JOHN, Leith, mast maker, Aug. 14, Sept. 4.

M'PHERAN, HUGH, Benten, Dumfriesshire, carter, Aug. 12, Sept. 2.

M'VICAR, JAMES, Inverkeithing, brick manufacturer, Aug. 11, Sept. 8.

SYME, JAMES, St Mark's place, near Edinburgh, gardener, Aug. 14, Sept. 11.

WILLIE, ROBERT, Auchinleck, Ayrshire, gun maker, Aug. 12, Sept. 4.

BRITISH FUNDS.

There is very little doing in the stock market, and prices are very steady.

| | Wed. | Thur. | Fri. | Sat. | Mon. | Tues. |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 8 per cent. Consols | 93 <i>1</i> |
| Ditto for Account | 93 <i>1</i> |
| 3 per cents Reduced | 94 <i>1</i> |
| 3 <i>1</i> per cts. Reduced | 102 <i>1</i> |
| New 3 <i>1</i> per cent. | 101 <i>1</i> |
| Long Annuities | 12 <i>1</i> | — | 12 <i>1</i> | 12 <i>1</i> | 12 <i>1</i> | 12 <i>1</i> |
| Bank Stock | 181 <i>1</i> | 180 <i>1</i> | 180 <i>1</i> | 181 <i>1</i> | — | — |
| India Stock | 26 <i>1</i> | — | 26 <i>1</i> | — | — | — |
| Exchequer Bills | 55pm | 55pm | 55pm | 56pm | 55pm | 55pm |
| India Bonds | 70pm | 68pm | 70pm | 69pm | 68pm | 68pm |

FOREIGN FUNDS.

| | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Austrian | 112 <i>1</i> | Mexican | 35 |
| Belgian | 104 | Peruvian | 19 <i>1</i> |
| Brazilian | 72 | Portuguese 5 per cents | 40 |
| Buenos Ayres | — | Ditto 3 per cents | — |
| Columbian | 25 | Russian | 115 <i>1</i> |
| Danish | 86 <i>1</i> | Spanish Active | 19 <i>1</i> |
| Dutch 2 <i>1</i> per cent | 53 <i>1</i> | Ditto Passive | 4 <i>1</i> |
| Ditto 5 per cents | 100 <i>1</i> | Ditto Deferred | 10 <i>1</i> |

RAILWAY SHARES.

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| Birmingham and Derby | 45 <i>1</i> | London and Brighton | 33 |
| Birmingham & Gloucester | 52 | London & Croydon Trunk | 11 <i>1</i> |
| Blackwall | 4 <i>1</i> | London and Greenwich | 4 |
| Bristol and Exeter | 58 | Ditto New | 16 <i>1</i> |
| Cheltenham & Gt. Western | 28 | Manchester & Birm. | 22 <i>1</i> |
| Eastern Counties | 9 | Midland Counties | 70 |
| Edinburgh and Glasgow | — | North Midland | 72 |
| Great North of England | 62 | Ditto New | — |
| Great Western | 90 | South Eastern and Dover | 26 |
| Ditto New | 67 | South Western | 65 <i>1</i> |
| Ditto Fifths | 16 <i>1</i> | Ditto New | — |
| London and Birmingham | 217 | — | — |
| Ditto Quarter Shares | 53 | — | — |

MARKETS.

GRAIN, MARK LANE, August 7.

The supply of English wheat was moderate, but, with some quantity left over from last week, formed a good show. The weather being apparently settled, the trade opened heavily, and at the close of the market only a partial clearance was effected, although a decline of 2*s*. per qr was submitted to. The same cause operated against both free foreign and bonded; very little business having passed in either at terms barely equal to last week.

Barley, beans, and peas, being scarce, brought quite as much money, though the demand for these articles was far from brisk.

Oats met a slow sale, at about previous terms.

| | s. | z. | | s. | z. |
|----------------|----|-------|----------------|----|-------|
| Wheat, Red New | 51 | to 58 | Malt, Ordinary | 42 | to 52 |
| Fine | 60 | 66 | Pale | 54 | 58 |
| White | 51 | 58 | Peas, Hog | 29 | 33 |
| Fine | 60 | 68 | Maple | 30 | 33 |
| Rye | 34 | 37 | Boilers | 30 | 32 |
| Barley | 30 | 33 | Beans, Ticks | 24 | 26 |
| Malting | 32 | 34 | | | |

DUTY ON FOREIGN CORN.

Wheat

Barley

Oats

Rye

Peas